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**30P**

# THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 16 1994

No. 64,880

**Don't bypass Russia, Major told**

## Yeltsin warns Nato over air strikes

By PHILIP WEBSTER, ANNE McELVOY, MICHAEL EVANS  
AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF



Yeltsin: bringing UN  
and Nato leaders together

PRESIDENT Yeltsin yesterday criticised Nato's plans to launch air strikes to protect Sarajevo and warned John Major that he would not allow the West to bypass Russia in seeking a solution to the Bosnian conflict.

Mr Yeltsin has been irritated by Nato's failure to contact him before issuing its ultimatum to the Serbs last week, and he told the Prime Minister yesterday: "Some people are trying to resolve the Bosnian question without the participation of Russia. We will not allow this." He did, however, accept that any attack on UN forces must be punished.

Mr Yeltsin's warning during his Moscow summit meeting with Mr Major came as Nato commanders underlined their determination to take action if the Bosnian Serbs fail to surrender their heavy weapons around the besieged city by midnight on Sunday.

Nato sources insisted that apparent differences between the alliance and the United Nations in interpreting what the Serbs have to do to avoid attack had been ironed out — and they were confident that the Serbs would comply.

While General Ratko Mladic again declared yesterday that he would not withdraw, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, promised to pull back his heavy weapons, saying: "We are not so stupid as to challenge Nato."

Mr Major also voiced the hope that military action would be unnecessary, saying: "Heavy weapons are increasingly under control. We hope that is going to continue over the next few days. We see a real chance of peace starting in Sarajevo."

"There is no prospect of there being a military victory. Clearly it is important that the United States, Russia and all members of the European Union are involved and use their influence on all the combatants to try to ensure a satisfactory settlement."

British officials nevertheless made plain that Britain would oppose any Russian attempt to

ons could be used for defence elsewhere. It was in the Serbs' interests to have Unprofor monitoring the heavy weapons and some pieces would be moved to make that easier.

Peacekeeping reinforcements have been pouring into Sarajevo and the total will soon increase from 60 at the time of the mortar attack that killed 68 people ten days ago to more than three hundred.

General Rose has described the truce in Sarajevo as a model that could be used throughout Bosnia and is talking about reintroducing postal and refuse collection services to the city.

Nato has meanwhile assembled the biggest collection of Western air power since the Gulf war, and a force of more than 180 aircraft is on a high state of alert while scores of aircraft are continuously flying over the republic.

With President Yeltsin expressing doubts over the enterprise, however, Nato faces the possibility of having to decide on air strikes against Russia's will in what would be a big blow to post-Cold War co-operation. The blunt tone of Mr Yeltsin's remarks suggest that he fears Nato intervention would effectively deprive Russia of a role in solving the conflict, leaving him open to renewed attacks from domestic opponents who accuse him of bowing to the West.

The Russian leader's colleague are pulling him in different directions. Andrei Kozyrev, the Foreign Minister, has said that air strikes would be permissible as a last resort, but the Defence Minister, Pavel Grachev, has consistently said they would worsen the conflict.

More than 77 per cent of Russians are opposed to air strikes, according to an opinion poll published yesterday, and 66 per cent agree that any attack on the Serbs would be seen as an attack on Russia itself.

**Cairngorm blizzard woman lives to tell tale**



Jacqueline Greaves talking to rescuers who video-recorded the moment she was found yesterday on the 3,500ft Derry Cairngorm mountain

By EDWARD GORMAN

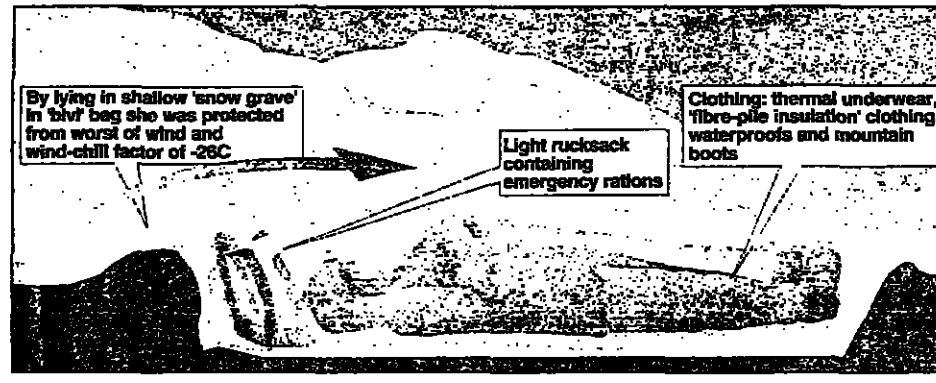
MOUNTAIN rescue teams were last night celebrating one of the most remarkable operations conducted in the Highlands of Scotland: in which a 53-year-old woman was found alive and well after two nights on the Cairngorms in Arctic temperatures.

While the teams were full of praise for the alertness of Jacqueline Greaves and her use of survival techniques, there was criticism from within the RAF over reports that she may be paid £40,000 by two national newspapers for her story. The rescue is estimated to have cost the taxpayer at least £75,000.

Mrs Greaves, who is married with two children and lives at Lowton, Greater Manchester, went missing on Sunday afternoon when she and two male companions fell through a snow cornice on Derry Cairngorm, north of Braemar, during a blizzard.

The men eventually made their way to safety, sparking a huge rescue operation involving two Sea King helicopters from RAF Lossiemouth and eventually four mountain rescue teams, including two from the Royal Air Force.

Having failed to find her on Sunday and Monday in temperatures which, with wind-chill factors included, were as low as -26C, team leaders were beginning to give up hope. Mrs Greaves was finally located yesterday morning, however, by an alsatian working with an RAF team, about



also that she was fully prepared for the mountains, with thermal underwear, thick-fibre clothing, proper waterproofs, gloves and good boots. She was also carrying a rucksack with emergency food supplies, and sleeping and bivouac bags.

On her first night, it is believed that Mrs Greaves, who lost her ice axe in her fall sheltered behind a boulder. On the second night, she dug a so-called "snow grave" with her hands — a narrow trench surrounded by a snow wall in which she then lay inside her sleeping and bivouac bags, helping to keep out the lethal wind and preserve her body.

Continued on page 3, col 8

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## Rifkind tackles missile threat

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN may need to buy a ballistic-missile defence system to counter an increasing threat from the proliferation of long-range weapons, Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, said yesterday. He has ordered a two-year study into whether the spending of billions to protect this country and its servicemen abroad would be justified.

Mr Rifkind added that a study was also under way to examine the possible purchase of stand-off cruise missiles, another expensive option. He emphasised that ballistic-missile technology was not confined just to those countries that Britain had "traditionally regarded as threatening us".

The need for a ballistic-missile defence system is based on the assumption that such countries as Libya or Iraq, within potential range of Britain, could pose a threat within ten years or so. More than 20 countries are known to be buying or developing ballistic-missile systems.

During the Cold War, Britain's strategy against a Soviet missile attack was based on deterrence. The possession of

Polaris and its replacement Trident missile system was thought sufficient to deter the Soviet Union from launching a nuclear attack.

In the post-Cold War era, the threat could come from countries prepared to call Britain's bluff and launch an attack, gambling that the Government would not retaliate with a strategic Trident missile. Partly to meet this threat, the Ministry of Defence intends to convert some Trident missiles into sub-strategic, shorter-range systems.

The new study will examine which countries are likely to acquire effective missile systems, whether they pose a threat to Britain, what warheads they might have (nuclear, chemical, biological or conventional) and if a defensive system is affordable. Although there is no estimate, a national system could cost several billion pounds.

Addressing the Centre for Defence Studies at King's College, London, Mr Rifkind said ballistic-missile defence had moved from the "Star Wars" projects of Cold War days to programmes with more limited scope.

## Peers force Bill retreat

The Government was last night facing another climb-down over key parts of its plans to reform police authorities after a barrage of criticism in the House of Lords. Ministers were forced to retreat on the central issue of the Bill, which ends local government control of the authorities, when it became clear that they faced defeat.

## Rival skaters to break the ice

By A STAFF REPORTER

NANCY Kerrigan and Tonya Harding, the rival American figure skaters, are almost certain to meet face to face in the course of the Winter Olympics, and the confrontation could come tomorrow.

Kerrigan and Harding — who denies allegations that she was involved in planning an attack on her rival — are scheduled to train together twice tomorrow. Mahlon Bradley, the US figure skating team leader, said measures had been taken to keep them apart as much as possible.

"Tonya and Nancy will have separate locker rooms, separate entrances to the amphitheatre, and the coaches will be at different ends of the rink," he said. "But they are bound to meet at some stage."

They are apparently living in the same building in Hamar, near Lillehammer, but on different floors.

Kerrigan was hit on the right knee by a man wielding a metal baton during the US figure skating championships last month. Jeff Gillooly, Harding's former husband, and her bodyguard later admitted plotting the attack. They implicated Harding, who denies

knowing of the scheme in advance. She has not been charged with any offence.

US Olympic Committee officials had planned to hold a hearing that could have resulted in Harding being thrown out of the team, but she filed a \$20 million (£1.7 million) lawsuit to stop them. On Sunday the committee agreed to let her compete in exchange for withdrawal of her action.

Kerrigan's coach, Evi Scott, denied that there was friction between him and the committee for not changing the skating schedules. Mr Bradley said they had tried, but the International Skating Union refused.

"I'm not annoyed about the training times," Mr Scott said. "What's done is done, and there's no sense in worrying about it. If the USOC could change the times, it would be a bonus, but I'm not expecting that."

He said Kerrigan might even benefit from training with Harding. "Nancy needs more skaters on the ice with her, to help her focus better."

## Prescription charges up 50p

A 50p rise in prescription charges, from £4.25 to £4.75, announced in the Commons yesterday, was immediately condemned by Labour as an "outrageous tax on the sick". Liberal Democrats said patients may be deprived of medicines. Page 2

## £41,000 bill after Great Dane dies

A Chichester vet was ordered yesterday to pay £40,000 costs and compensation of £1,038 after a Great Dane he was treating for tonsillitis died after a routine exploratory operation on its throat. Page 3

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Storm-hit seabirds die in thousands

Thousands of dead and dying seabirds are being washed up on the north and northeast coasts of Britain, apparently victims of a lethal combination of bad weather and a food shortage caused by overfishing. The toll is expected to exceed the mass starvation of 1983, when 30,000 died.

Nancy Harrison, of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, said: "Many seabirds are at the limit of their strength at this time of year." Several thousand birds have been found on beaches in the Shetland Islands, Orkney, east Scotland and along the coast of Northumberland. Most are gulls, with smaller numbers of razorbills, shags and kittiwakes.

## Crime cash targeted

The offence of laundering the proceeds of drug trafficking and terrorism was extended yesterday to the proceeds of all serious crime. Anyone convicted of laundering money faces up to 14 years in prison, an unlimited fine or both under provisions set out in the 1993 Criminal Justice Act. Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, said: "Money-laundering is vital to criminals like terrorists and drug traffickers. These new powers will help make life more difficult for them and help us to counter more effectively the activities of organised crime in this country."

## Police brutality claim

David Adams, 36, a cousin of Gerry Adams, has lodged a complaint about alleged police brutality after receiving a broken leg and a punctured lung when he was arrested in Belfast last week. He is under police guard in a Belfast hospital, where he was charged in a special court with conspiracy to murder members of the security forces and other paramilitary offences. Five other men were charged at Belfast magistrates court with similar offences after undercover police officers intercepted a van and seized weapons in east Belfast last Thursday.

## Newsagent charged

A newsagent was last night charged with murdering a man who allegedly tried to rob his shop in Rochdale. Jim Chadwick, 53, will appear before magistrates today charged with the murder of Paul Heap, 22, who died from stab wounds on Monday. Mr Chadwick has also been charged with the attempted murder of Spencer Reeves, 21.

## Travel passes stolen

More than £500,000 worth of free travel permits for London buses and Underground trains were stolen after being left on a lavatory shelf by an Islington Council officer in north London. When she returned, they had disappeared from the toilet used by council staff and the public. The woman has been suspended pending an internal enquiry.

## D-Day plan shot down

Plans to ship a Second World War tank to the Normandy beaches to mark the 50th anniversary of D-Day in June have fallen foul of the Defence Ministry. Clive Evans, whose Dorset company planned to take a Sherman tank to Arromanches, was told by the ministry it believed the plan would upset veterans.

## Miners' gala at risk

The Durham Miners' Gala, once a potent political and social event, is in danger of disappearing with the demise of coal mining in the North East. NUM branch officials yesterday appealed to trade unionists for £20,000 over the next month as there are not enough miners left in Durham to finance what would be the 110th gala this July.

## Passengers get smart

Bus passengers in Harrow, northwest London, have been issued with "smart card" tickets which do not even have to be removed from their wallets as they board. If successful, the experiment in using electronic card readers next to ticket machines, could be introduced nationwide. Another card will have a cash value stored electronically.

## Good-news doll pops in, pops up and pops out again

MATTHEW PARRIS  
POLITICAL SKETCH

Only last week we described the arrival in the Chamber of Mrs Cheryl Gillan (C. Chesham & Amersham), all dressed in yellow, spreading joy among gloomy backbenchers in grey suits at PM's questions. She shared with John Major her picnic basket full of good news and helpful economic statistics. We compared her to a little primrose (well, a medium-sized primrose) peeping through the tarmac.

Yesterday, Cheryl was a poppy. All dressed in the red they would call "fiesta" in paint charts, Mrs Gillan popped up on Question One to the Employment Secretary, David Hunt, to ask how much British industry spends on training. Mr Hunt told her it was quite a lot. Mrs Gillan was in rhapsodies. Did this not prove that we were ahead of the rest of Europe? This kind of thing was so very important for employers. Hooray!

Shortly afterwards, Mrs Gillan left. In the interlude before she returned we were left to ponder the possibility that she means to make a habit of this tripping into the Chamber gaily attired, imparting any good news that has recently come to her attention, and then tripping out again, presumably in search of more.

Soon, Mrs Gillan will be automatically linked to happy tidings. The very sight of her on television will cause



an optimistic blip on the Stock Exchange. Like the smiling figurine in those "rain-or-shine" toys, swivelling out from her wooden shelter to indicate sunny weather, she will no longer need to speak at all. And if Mrs Gillan is the good-news doll, Mrs Beckett is the bad-news doll. All she needs is a black umbrella. As deputy leader of the Opposition, Margaret Beckett was standing in for John Smith at PM's questions, facing the House Leader, Tony Newton. Mr Major is in Moscow.

This was the B team, Mrs Beckett, however, was determined to show she can be just as cross and miserable as Mr Smith. So cross and miserable was she that, breaking with precedent, she was cross and miserable about two quite separate things during PM's questions. Dressed in deadly nightshade blue, she was first cross about back to basics. The PM's policy was a laughing stock, she sneered. Mr Newton, more than ever the outraged bus con-

ductor, whinnied indignantly that Mr Major had made it perfectly clear that very morning. Up got the cross lady a second time, umbrella open. There was something else she was upset about. Why was the Government concealing details of the tax demands facing us in 1995? Perhaps unable to say, Mr Newton took refuge in sheer volume. At the top of his voice he yelled out historic phrases like "Taxation policy is making a contribution towards the economic strength and well-being of this country". The cross lady was still not satisfied, but Mr Newton looked the better for a jolly good shout. Everyone seems

to be shouting at the moment, except Mrs Gillan. All through Employment Questions Mr Hunt, who is one of nature's smoothies, felt the need to demonstrate his street-fighting credentials by yelling. "Let him start by talking up our achievements," he shouted at Labour spokesman Tony Lloyd, as though that were an oppositionist's job. "Why is he always talking this country down?" he wanted to know. Really, one would hesitate to report so much as a blocked drain to Mr Hunt for fear of having one's ears blasted off for this grossly unpatriotic slur on British sanitary engineering. Come back, Mrs Gillan!

## Prescription charge rise condemned as tax on the sick

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A RISE in prescription charges triggered a political row at Westminster last night. The 11.8 per cent increase, from £4.25 to £4.75, was condemned by Labour as an "outrageous tax on the sick".

The Liberal Democrats said the rise, six times the rate of inflation, would hit hardest at those just above income support who would be unable to afford more than one prescription. Elizabeth Lynne, the party's health spokesman, said patients on low incomes who were prescribed more than one item would only pick up one drug. "If they are prescribed a painkiller and antibiotics, they will only collect the painkiller," she said.

Both Opposition parties accused the Government of "ducking" out of making a Commons statement about the sixteenth rise since the Conservatives came into office.

However, Tony Newton, Leader of the House, countered that 80 per cent of the prescriptions were now free of charge compared with 60 per cent in 1979. New rises, which came into effect on April 1, would raise nearly £300 million in the coming year.

"That will pay for over 200,000 cataract operations or over 70,000 hip operations," Mr Newton said to Tory cheers.

Giving details of the changes in a Commons written reply, Dr Brian Mawhinney, the health minister, also announced that the value of spectacle vouchers would increase by 4 per cent from

April. At the same time the maximum charge for a single course of dental treatment would go up from £250 to £275. "No child, no expectant or nursing mother, no state retirement pensioner, and no person on Income Support or Family Credit is affected by the 50p increase in the prescription charge," he said.

The new rises were still significantly less than the average total cost of a single prescription item to the NHS, he said. He pointed out that in 1992-93 the NHS drugs bill was over £2.6 billion and income from the new prescription charges would raise much needed revenue.

Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, is believed to have traded big prescription hikes in return for her "real terms" increase in health spending for next year.

The British Medical Association said the price increase was "a tax on those on low incomes in order to bolster the seriously under-funded NHS".

Dr Sandy Macara, chairman of the BMA council, said: "The continual rise in prescription charges has been acting as a deterrent to patients going to their doctor." Doctors wanted a complete overhaul of the current system of payment, he said.

David Blunkett, Labour's health spokesman, said that charges had risen by more than 2.75 per cent since the Tories came to power in 1979. "The Government is asking patients to fund its own economic incompetence," he said.



Walsh: wielded a meat cleaver

## Two shot chasing masked robbers

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A SUB-POSTMASTER and a butcher who chased and tackled armed robbers were recovering in hospital last night after being shot and wounded by the two masked men who escaped empty handed.

At one point during the incident in Bradford, West Yorkshire, three shopkeepers, one brandishing a meat cleaver, were chasing the robbers down the street. They had been disturbed by the postmaster when he arrived to open the post office sub-branch yesterday.

The two wounded men were being treated in Bradford Royal Infirmary where their injuries were said to be serious but not life-threatening. They were named as Jim Turner, 47, the postmaster, who is married with two children, and Dale Walsh, 27, a butcher's assistant.

Det Supt Malcolm Mawson said: "They have paid a price for their public-spirited action and their bravery; please God they will recover fully from it."

Police said they were treating the incident as attempted murder. "They are desperate



Police searching for evidence at the scene of the attempted robbery in Bradford

and clearly prepared to kill," Mr Mawson said. "Without doubt these are cold, calculating and desperate men."

"They deliberately aimed the gun and shot the men. Whether they were killed or otherwise was not on the gunmen's minds."

The shooting happened in daylight when Mr Turner opened his premises in Lilycroft Road, Heaton. He was confronted by two men as he went in. Both had their faces obscured by woollen balaclavas. Mr Turner was beaten several times around the head with a handgun.

He managed to break free and run into the street where his cries for help were heard by Dan Woodend, who runs

the butcher's shop nearby, and Mr Walsh.

The robbers fled through a rear entrance at the post office and fired several shots. The three set off in pursuit, Mr Walsh wielding a meat cleaver.

They caught up with the robbers in a nearby street and a struggle broke out. Mr Turner wrestled one to the ground, before the robber's companion hit him again. As he lay on the ground Mr Turner was shot in the groin.

The robbers broke free and were again pursued by the butcher and his assistant. Soon after the thieves fired again, hitting Mr Walsh in the leg. Mr Woodend said: "You read

about it, but it's something you never, ever expect on your doorstep. Jim had blood round his face and head. There is only one thing for these people: they ought to bring back hanging."

Police have set up an incident room near the post office. Forty officers are conducting enquiries. Mr Mawson said police were considering the possibility of links with other armed robberies in the area.

The weapon used has not been recovered and thick snow has hampered the search at the scene. Mr Mawson appealed to anyone who saw anything suspicious near the post office early in the day or saw a vehicle leaving the scene to contact police.

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David Grubb, Director, Feed the Children

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## Yard to set up gang busters

BY STEWART TENDLER  
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

SCOTLAND Yard is considering setting up a special task force to tackle London's increasingly violent gang network as part of a radical overhaul of CID operations.

Reformers believe there is a need for such a specialist detective unit because key members of some of the established London gangs have remained free for years, despite police intelligence about their activities.

The task force would be modelled on the unit created in the mid-1980s to hunt the men behind the £26 million Brink's-Mat bullion robbery. It would be manned from a pool of experienced detectives and specialist officers skilled in fraud cases, intelligence gathering or asset tracing.

The idea of creating the unit has been raised by a working party set up by Paul Condon, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan police, to restructure London's CID operations. A blueprint for CID reform, now being drafted, could see cuts in the manpower of some of the Yard's most famous squads.

The exercise is being conducted as part of a policy to streamline the Metropolitan police for the 1990s and the next century.

## CORRECTION

Mr Keith Vaz, Labour MP for Leicester East, asks us to make clear that, contrary to a report yesterday on local government reorganisation, he supports party policy for unitary authorities generally based on districts.

## Tax-code tangle could cost £100m

BY SARA MCCONNELL

ACCOUNTANTS estimate that more than half the notices of tax coding sent to people with complex tax affairs could be wrong.

Sir Anthony Battisell, chairman of the Inland Revenue, told the Commons public accounts committee on Monday that 10 per cent of employees' tax affairs including codings were wrong.

This alone would result in more than £100 million of income tax being overpaid and almost as much underpaid.

On the basis of queries already received, accountants estimate that the assessment is a conservative one, especially for people with complex personal tax affairs.

Several firms of accountants contacted by The Times said that up to half the coding notices received by their clients for the 1994-5 tax year were wrong.

David Rothenberg, of chartered accountant Blick Rothenberg, said: "A lot of the notices being sent out are complete gobbledygook. They contain fundamental errors. Many if not most of them are simply wrong."

Richard Davey, a partner at BDO Binder Hamlyn, said: "There have always been mistakes, but things aren't getting any better." Mr Davey estimates that between ten and 50 per cent of codings sent by his firm were wrong.

Linda Foster, tax manager at Arthur Andersen, said that although most of the simpler codings were right, as many as 50 per cent of the more complex ones were wrong. Notices of tax coding, which are used by the Inland Reve-

nue to tell employers how much tax they should take from employees' pay packets in the tax year 1994-5, have been sent to twice as many taxpayers as usual since the start of the year.

This is mainly because of the decision to restrict the married couples' allowance to 20 per cent, announced in the March 1993 Budget. The restrictions, which appear on the coding notice, have caused widespread confusion. The value of company car benefits, and thus the tax payable, has also been wrongly calculated in many cases.

Accountants said mistakes had occurred mainly in calculating the restriction on the married couples' allowance and on working out the amounts of tax payable on company cars. The Inland Revenue's computer also appears to be picking up previous underpayments and including them in this year's tax code, although in many cases the tax has already been paid.

The Inland Revenue said people should make sure their tax office knew of changes such as marriage, divorce or a new job, which may bring new benefits such as private medical insurance. Alternatively, perks may no longer be on offer, but the Inland Revenue will assume they have continued unless told otherwise.

Taxpayers who do not understand their codes should go to their tax office or send a copy of their coding notice to their accountant who will not have received one automatically.

Letters, page 14  
Leading article, page 15

## How did Revenue blunders arise?

Q Why does the Inland Revenue seem to have got so many codes wrong?

A The main problem is caused by changes in the married couple's allowance. From April 1994, the value of the married couple's allowance will be restricted to the 20 per cent band. From April the allowance will be £344 for all, so the Revenue has to adjust tax codes to include restrictions reducing the value of the allowance. To do this, it has to estimate whether someone will be paying tax at 20 per cent, 25 per cent or 40 per cent in 1994-95.

Q I am married, under 65 and a higher-rate taxpayer but have no other benefits. What figures should appear on my tax coding notice?

A On the left-hand side there should be two figures, a personal allowance of £3,445 and a married couple's allowance of £1,720. On the right-hand side there will be an item "Allow Restriction" and a figure, £860. This is

the amount by which the value of your allowances has been reduced under the new married couple's restriction.

Q I have a company car. How can I check if the figure on my coding is right?

A If the item on the right-hand side of the notice says "Benefits (car)", it will probably mean the Revenue has based its calculation of the value of the benefit on last year's figure because your employer has not yet given details of the list price. Tax rates on company cars will be based on the original manufacturers' list price from April instead of on engine size as now. Check with your employer if the coding is right. The words "Benefits (car) (new)" should indicate that the Revenue has the correct details.

Q What should I do if I think my code is wrong? A You must appeal in writing within 30 days. The Revenue should then adjust your code.

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# Vet faces £41,000 bill for death of a dog called Gulliver

By Emma Wilkins

A VET is facing a bill of £41,000 after a routine throat operation on a Great Dane went wrong. The animal died 36 hours later.

Roderick Kynoch, 49, a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, wrongly administered anaesthetics to the dog, called Gulliver, during exploratory surgery at his clinic near Chichester, West Sussex.

Gulliver's owner, Kevin Crane, brought a claim for negligence and Mr Kynoch was ordered to pay £1,038 compensation and £40,000 costs. Delivering judgment at Chichester County Court, Judge Birks said Mr Kynoch's care had fallen below the standards expected of a vet.

Mr Crane, 34, a steel importer from Portsmouth, found some of Gulliver's remains in plastic bags behind the surgery when he called about a post-mortem examination. He intends to spend some of the compensation on another Great Dane, which will also be called Gulliver.

"I have struck a blow for this country's 10 million dog lovers," he said after the judgment. "I risked a great deal for justice and now I can rest happily."

Gulliver was well enough to return home after the operation in September 1990 but he became ill and died shortly afterwards. Mr Crane took the body back to Mr Kynoch's

surgery in Nuthourne for the post-mortem examination and telephoned later to ask about the results. Mr Kynoch told him the dog had been incinerated without his permission, so Mr Crane went to the surgery, where he found parts of Gulliver's body in three bags.

It was later discovered that the dog had wrongly been given two injections of anaesthetic within a few hours, the court was told.

"I am satisfied that the breaches in the administration of anaesthetics materially contributed to Gulliver's death," Judge Birks said. "The material loss may be very little, but the emotional losses are far greater."

"The only way of finding justice was to seek action in court. This was an expensive case and expert witnesses were needed to build up a picture to provide an answer to the problems involved."

After the case, Mr Kynoch said: "The verdict is harsh and unfair. I carefully considered Gulliver's release from the surgery and this was vindicated by the fact that he was walking three hours later."

"A post-mortem by two separate vets found Gulliver was also suffering from three separate heart conditions which contributed to his death some 36 hours later."

"Over many years I have treated many animals and my

conscience is clear. This case will cause damage to my reputation, but I am continuing to practise. I am very sad about what happened, and at the end of it all I feel very sad for Gulliver."

Mr Kynoch's insurer, the Veterinary Defence Society, said damages claims for negligence had trebled during the past ten years. "Vets face claims for everything under the sun," Michael Stockman, chairman of the society's claims committee, said. "It's not surprising when you look at the claims against doctors, architects, the media and all sorts of professional people."

He added that the disposal of animals' bodies was "a terrific problem".

The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, which has the power to strike off vets from its register, declined to comment on the case.

Damages claims for negligence against veterinary surgeons have trebled in the last 10 years, according to figures produced by the Veterinary Defence Society.

The claims, which in some cases have been for up to £25,000, cover almost all types of domestic pets and farm animals from horses to rodents.

Figures compiled by the society show that last year there were 862 cases brought against vets. Ten years ago the figure was less than 300.

## Group 4 blamed for man's death

By Paul Wilkinson

THE family of a prisoner who died in the custody of Group 4 is to bring a civil action against the firm after an inquest jury said his death was due to "lack of care".

The jury found that the security firm, one of the leading companies bidding to run state prisons, was to blame for the death of Ernest Hogg, 38. He died after choking unnoticed on his own vomit in the back of a custody van.

Group 4 staff knew he and other prisoners were drunk when they put them into the van but took no action, the inquest was told.

A member of staff, later dismissed, saw Mr Hogg slumped on the floor of the van but thought he was asleep.

The jury of five men and four women returned a verdict that Mr Hogg, a father of two from Forfar, Tayside, "died of hypoxic brain damage due to acute ethanol intoxication". The cause of death was contributed to by lack of care.

Mrs Marlene Hogg, the prisoner's widow, and other relatives wept in the public gallery as the foreman of the jury gave the verdict.

She said she was "totally disgusted" by the evidence she had heard during the 17-day inquest at Beverley, Humberside and added that the family would bring civil action for damages against Group 4.

"If things had been done differently he would be alive today. The verdict is a clear indication that mistakes have been made because Group 4 have not done their job."

"I am delighted that the jury have returned a 'lack of care' verdict and feel that this was the appropriate verdict in the light of the evidence."

The verdict is a damaging blow to the Government's drive to inject private-sector management into the prison service as Group 4 has pioneered the policy in both prisons and court escorts.

## Second transplant needed for boy

By Ian Murray

RHYS Daniels, the three-year-old boy whose parents took Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, to the High Court last June to ensure he was given a life-saving operation, urgently needs a second bone marrow transplant to combat the rare genetic disease which is slowly killing him.

His father, Barry, said last night: "Time is basically running out. The first transplant seems to have given him a remission, but that is all. He must have another one very

quickly or it will be too late." Rhys, from Epping, Essex, was given his first transplant last July as the only chance of saving him from Batten's disease, a rare genetic disorder from which his elder sister, Charly, is already dying.

The operation, the first of its kind anywhere in the world, was carried out at the Royal Hospital for Children in Bristol. The hospital agreed to do it after the High Court criticised Mrs Bottomley for failing to consult about the decision to close the specialist bone marrow unit at the Westminster Children's Hospital, which had originally promised to treat Rhys.

He had to have the operation before his third birthday last December, when the first symptoms of the disease would have started to show. After that happens there is no known cure for the disease which always kills sufferers by the time they are seven.

Specialists hoped that the original transplant would have saved Rhys after tests last autumn showed no evidence of Batten's disease. However, in the past few weeks he has rejected the bone marrow.



Rhys: slowly dying from rare disease

## Child porn targeted

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

THE Government is planning to double jail sentences for people convicted of possessing indecent pictures of children or making obscene telephone calls.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, also plans further measures to curb the spread of computer pornography by closing loopholes in the obscenity laws. His junior minister, David Maclean, plans to bring forward the other proposals after Labour demanded tougher action yesterday against pornography.

The sentence for people convicted of possessing indecent photographs of children will be doubled from three to six months' jail. The measure will be put into the Criminal Justice and Public

Order Bill after Labour successfully moved an amendment to double the penalty during the committee stage.

Mr Maclean is also preparing to introduce a measure doubling the penalty for any one convicted of making a malicious or obscene telephone call. The jail sentence would double from three to six months; the fine rise to £2,500.

The plans to clamp down on computer pornography are designed to curb the activities of paedophile networks which get around existing laws. Under the proposals, the legal meaning of "publication" in the Obscene Publication Act, 1959 would be redefined to include the electronic transmission of obscene material between computers.



Nancy Kerrigan practising her routine in Hamar, Norway, yesterday



Tonya Harding: likely to meet Kerrigan tomorrow

## Cold facts on the ice maidens

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

Tonya Harding's vital statistics:

Age: 23

Height: 5ft 1in

Best performance: Won national championships in January; fourth at Albertville Olympics.

Best off-ice performance: Television programme in which she wept, explaining: "I want somebody to love me for me."

Father: Al Harding, Trucker.

Mother: La Vona Golden, prefers to be known as Sandy.

Hobbies: Pool; smoking; driving pick-up trucks; drag-racing; shooting deer.

Says of Kerrigan: "I'm going to whip her butt" and "I'm going to hug her, if she'll let me."

Says of herself: "To be honest, I'm thinking of the dollar signs."

Previous experience of the law: Threatened a motorist with a baseball bat; interviewed by police after gunfire heard at marital home.

What they say about her: "Look at Tonya go! ... A double betrayal into a full denial ending in a triple movie deal" — Walt Handelsman, *The Times-Picayune*.

Obstacles in the way of a medal: Evidence of complicity in assault on Kerrigan; the

FBI; the police; the US Olympic Committee.

Nancy Kerrigan's vital statistics:

Age: 24

Height: 5ft 8in

Best performance: Bronze medal at Albertville Olympics

Best off-ice performance: Before 1,000 reporters and photographers in Lillehammer when she bit her lip and said she felt "wonderful".

Father: Dan, welder.

Mother: Brenda, legally blind, irons Kerrigan's outfits.

Hobbies: Watching comedy videos; running a charity for the blind; jogging.

Says of Harding: "I don't know how I'm going to feel when I see her ... that's personal."

Says of herself: "It's hard to know what to feel right now" and "I don't have enough malice in me to understand" why anyone would want to break her leg.

Previous experience of the law: Nil. Unthinkable.

What they say about her: "She knows the whole country is behind her" — Paul Wylie.

Obstacles in the way of a medal: A bruised knee.

Breaking the ice, page 1.

## Climber's family feared double loss

By Kate Alderson

THE husband of the rescued climber Jacqueline Greaves disclosed yesterday that until news reached him of her remarkable survival in the Cairngorms, he feared that his family was facing its second tragedy in six years.

Roy Greaves, 52, speaking at his home in Linton, Greater Manchester, said that the couple's youngest daughter Lesley, 18, was killed in 1987 when she crashed her sports car into a ditch near their home. Her body was not found for two weeks. He said: "The idea that I could lose my wife after my daughter went missing was unbearable."

Mr Greaves, who is a bank

courier, was full of praise for his wife's stamina and sensible reactions. "She was always well prepared and knew all of the survival techniques."

She often used to criticise other climbers who did not carry the right equipment or know the rules of the mountains. I spoke to her earlier today and she seemed very well and calm. She said she felt lucky to be alive."

The couple's daughter Sharon, 26, said that her mother was very fit and had 15 years' climbing experience. But waiting for news of her after the accident was difficult.

"The longer it went on the worse it got and her chances of survival diminished. When they called the search off last

night I began to worry, because you wonder if anyone can survive in those temperatures."

Mrs Greaves, 53, a school secretary, is an enthusiast for outdoor pursuits, including climbing and mountaineering, and an avid reader of books about mountain survival stories. She had never gone missing before but broke her leg in a climbing accident nine years ago.

Her son, Paul, 28, said: "Climbing and mountaineering is a huge part of her life. She takes schoolchildren on walks every weekend and is known for her spirit."

Mrs Greaves runs her local ramblers' association and has taken children on outdoor

pursuit courses at Hinning House, an outdoor education centre in the Lake District.

Tony Ball, a tutor at the centre, said: "We do orienteering and inland walking for schoolchildren. We do not teach the type of skills she would need to survive in Scottish snowy mountains, but we are all desperately relieved."

Christopher Evans, acting head teacher at Linton West junior and infants school, where Mrs Greaves works, praised her determined character: "The pupils and teachers all think it is magic that she has survived. We were beginning to fear the worst. With the snow and chill factor we wondered if anyone could survive."

Chris Bonington, the climber, said Mrs Greaves' survival was a great example of how the right preparation and the use of survival techniques work in saving lives. "This is much more of a reassuring story than anything else, in the sense that it shows that someone who knows what they are doing, has gone out with the right kind of equipment and, most importantly, responds positively and effectively to the circumstances, can come out the other side perfectly alright."

Last night, as Mrs Greaves rested in Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, where she was discovered to have early signs of frostbite in her fingers and the beginnings of hypothermia, a row was brewing over reports that she may receive up to £40,000 from *The Sun* and the *Daily Mail* for accounts of her story.

Senior executives at the *Daily Mail* refused to discuss the matter. *The Sun* confirmed that Mrs Greaves had given her story "exclusively" to the two papers, but said no money had changed hands as yet. But if and when it does, part or all of it may well go to the mountain teams.

## Cairngorm rescuers celebrate

Continued from page 1

temperature. She was also very fit and very fortunate. "I think she is extremely lucky to have survived. She must be an extremely hard lady," Corporal McDermott said. "We're absolutely delighted. There have been quite a lot of fatalities this year in Scotland, so it is a real bonus to get someone who is alive."

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## Intensive training led to Solo's rescue effort

By Edward Gorman

THE tracker dog that found Jacqueline Greaves on the snow-covered slopes of Derry Cairngorm early yesterday is one of a select group of animals intensively schooled for mountain rescue work.

Mrs Greaves was found by Solo, a three-year-old alsatian which was working with an RAF rescue team in Glen Luithe just below a ridge, southwest of the spot where she disappeared on Sunday.

Solo, whose handler Willie Fraser works for the National Trust, was one of nine dogs involved in the three-day search; a team made up of four collies, another alsatian, a labrador and two labrador-rottweiler crosses. The main advantages of dogs in mountain rescue work is their ability to cover very large

tracts of rough country much faster than people, their highly attuned sense of smell, and their ability to work in the dark.

Training a dog takes hundreds of hours and requires handlers to spend long periods on the mountains reinforcing established techniques.

Dogs begin schooling at about eight months old. First they have to be introduced to livestock to make sure they are not prone to chasing sheep or cattle. Then they are taught to look for a squeaky toy, and rewarded every time they find it.

Eventually the toy is taken out by a person who hides with it and the dog is sent to look for it. "It's very much a labour of love," a member of the Grampian police rescue team said yesterday.



Ron Greaves and his daughter Sharon celebrate

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## Chaos criticised as snow goes north

By Lin Jenkins

THE heavy snowfalls that caused commuter chaos and numerous road accidents moved North last night amid criticism of highway authorities and British Rail.

The RAC said local authorities had not gritted all the roads they could have. "Most of the A roads were gritted, but many other major routes were not," a spokesman said. "Even some motorways and slips roads were ignored, and as for minor roads, they were not touched."

British Rail abandoned services on some of its branch lines to keep arterial routes working. Services were withdrawn on at least five lines in the Network SouthEast region bringing numerous complaints from commuters.

BR defended its actions claiming that the policy of abandoning branch lines in severe weather was formed three years ago after the company faced criticism when it admitted it had been unable to cope with "the wrong kind of snow".

However, thousands of commuters also faced delays because of problems with points, signalling equipment and rolling stock.

Labour demanded that cold weather payments for the needy be started after the cold snap in the South and Midlands brought snowfalls up to 6in deep. David Winnick, Labour MP for Walsall North, asked Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, to waive the seven-day period for payment. He said: "I am urging the Social Security Secretary to cut red tape and save lives."

Cyril Poole, 73, a pensioner from Stourbridge, West Midlands, was found dead under the snow yesterday by a neighbour walking his dog. A post-mortem examination was carried out.

Chief Insp Ian Duncan said Mr Poole had been to the local Royal British Legion club the evening before and had probably fallen or collapsed on his way home.

On Exmoor, an injured woman was airlifted by RAF helicopter to hospital after an ambulance was unable to reach her by road. She was taken to North Devon district hospital in Barnstaple with a broken leg.

Traffic in the South East was lighter yesterday. Local authorities were able to grit the roads more thoroughly and many motorists used public transport to get to work. The snow is expected to move north today with a slow thaw beginning in the South.

Flights at Birmingham international airport were suspended, and Eastleigh airport was closed. Only a few flights were cancelled at Heathrow.

Forecast, page 22



Lilley: urged to speed up snow relief payouts



Beaten and almost battered, Nicholas Soames, the minister for food, marked Shrove Tuesday in appropriate style yesterday by trying his hand at pancake tossing, although at least one of his attempts fell distinctly flat. Mr Soames was visiting Earl's Court, west London, for the "World of Hospitality" hotel and catering exhibition



## Parish boundaries may be sacrificed to claw back £800m

By Ruth Gledhill and Angela Mackay

THE biggest reorganisation of the Church of England since the Reformation will be signalled today by the Archbishop of Canterbury and York.

Dr George Carey and Dr John Habgood will announce a commission to examine the church's structure in the light of the £800 million decline in the church's assets over the past three years. The new Bishop of Durham, the Right Rev Michael Turnbull, at present Bishop of Rochester, is expected to be the chairman.

The commission is likely to lead to sweeping changes in church structure, with reviews of all aspects from parochial organisation to episcopal management. Insiders predict that even the 1,000-year-old system of parish boundaries could be overhauled.

Details of the commission will be disclosed at Lambeth Palace today, just days before a series of meetings between

■ A commission is to consider radical changes to the Church of England after poor investments made a huge hole in assets

the church executive and diocesan financial managers to discuss plans to halve the £62.7 million annual contribution to clergy stipends over the next three years.

Fierce debate is expected between Sir Michael Colman, the new First Church Estates Commissioner, who wants most of the cuts introduced over the next two years, and local church people who wish to phase in the cuts over a longer period.

The commission is the result of a recommendation by the Lambeth Group set up by Dr Carey to report on the Church Commissioners' asset management after the church depleted its assets through several poor speculative property investments.

The Lambeth report con-

cluded that the nature and management of church affairs was "very different from, and more complex than, most other organisations within which large-scale assets and liabilities are managed".

The report said: "It would be appropriate for the church to review its overall organisational structure in the light of its present day activities and requirements."

Senior City figures last night said the Church of England should reassess its structure in the same way many big companies have been forced to do by the lengthy recession.

A chairman of a leading funds manager said the church had to decide whether it wanted to increase its depleted capital or target higher yielding securities, using existing funds to increase income.

He said: "I am not saying that the commissioners should mount a reverse takeover to top up capital and bring forward a number of young curates with MBAs, but they must work out what they want from their money and work it more efficiently."

He pointed out that in a year when most fund managers and stockbrokers were piling into equities because of a rising market, the church managed to decrease its equity portfolio in 1993 and increase its investment in fixed interest securities at a time of declining interest rates.

Frank Field, chairman of the Commons social security select committee, gave a warning that the Church of England must protect the poorest parishes and suggested linking them to more affluent ones. "The commissioners must try harder to minimise the damage done by a few reckless men."

Vicar's mite, page 13  
Bishop of Oxford, page 14  
Leading article, page 15

## Parish is paymaster for Catholic priests

By Robin Young

ANGLICAN clergymen, with pay and pensions subsidised by the Church Commissioners, have hitherto been generously provided for compared with Roman Catholic priests.

Catholic priests technically are self-employed and almost wholly dependent upon their parishes for income, board and lodging. Catholic parishes have to pay levies to their diocese as well as supporting their own priest.

The priest's stipend guaranteed by the diocese may be only a few hundred pounds a year. Most priests in diocesan offices receive a figure around the tax threshold for a single man, about £3,400 a year, which is generally seen to be a reasonable cash income.

Traditional sources for that income include stole fees for conducting baptisms, marriages and funerals; parishio-

ners' offerings for masses; and offerings at Christmas and Easter.

Efforts to bring Catholic priests' income into line with others, which have often been discussed by the National Conference of Priests, have come to nothing.

Some dioceses, however, such as Westminster, set a limit for Christmas offerings and request that sums above that should be contributed to a general fund for priests in poorer parishes.

Priests are expected to provide for their retirement and make their own pension arrangements, though dioceses do have welfare funds to which priests contribute during their working lives, which help to support them in sickness and retirement. Most dioceses also provide some housing for retired priests.

## Florida sun loses its appeal

By Harvey Elliott  
TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

FLORIDA has dropped from second to seventh place on the league table of most popular British package holiday destinations in the past year.

The fall in its popularity — sales are down 20 per cent on the same time last year — has led to an overall decline in the percentage of low-haul summer holidays being booked.

Lunn Poly, Britain's biggest travel agency chain, said that only 9 per cent of summer bookings were for long-haul holidays, compared with 13 per cent at the same time last year.

Spain has increased its domination at the top of the league table. Half the holidays booked so far will be taken there.

Overall, the company says, summer packages are being booked at record rates. It claims it is likely that 9.5 million people will take a package holiday this year — 1.6 million more than last year.

## Drug-gang boss jailed for 25 years

By A Staff Reporter

THE leader of a drug smuggling gang who attempted to import Bolivian cocaine with an estimated street value of £28 million was jailed for 25 years yesterday.

Bristol Crown Court was told how Jamaican-born Derek Gregory had organised the smuggling of more than 100 lb of the drug in gift-wrapped packages inside four passenger suitcases at Stansted airport in July 1992.

Customs and Excise officers moved in as the suitcases were being brought through the "nothing to declare" channel. The haul was the largest seizure of drugs in passenger luggage in Britain.

Gregory's half-brother, Ernest Ford, 33, was jailed for 12 years and Lee Cameron, 22, for 13 years, for their part in the scheme to bring cocaine into Britain. Gregory, 26, from Paddington, west London, showed little emotion as he left the dock after being sentenced.

Judge McCarragher, passing sentence, said the court knew well the evils of cocaine, "which destroys people's lives and their families, and produces crime among those who

want to use it and obtain it illegally".

Gregory and Ford, both of Streatham, southwest London, and Cameron, of Bristol, were convicted last month on a joint charge of conspiring with others to smuggle cocaine.

The court was told Ford was the "minder", watching over the arrival of the drug consignment. Cameron was described as "the recruiter", seeking out young jobless men in and around Bristol and offering all expenses-paid trips to South America. The would-be couriers were told they would be smuggling diamonds.

Three co-accused who brought the suitcases through Customs were cleared of conspiracy charges. They said they believed they were smuggling precious stones.

Gregory, known as "the Boss" by his associates, had led an "international jetset lifestyle" visiting known drug locations in Africa, India, South America and the US. He was deported from Britain in 1989, having served a two-year sentence for smuggling cannabis.

## Bar plans direct access to barristers

By Frances Gibb  
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

MEMBERS of the public will be able to approach a barrister direct without having first to see a solicitor under radical proposals to be published next week.

A consultation paper will suggest dismantling the last of the Bar's restrictive practices, including the rule on so-called "direct access".

The proposals, which come from the Bar's new policy unit under James Munby QC, coincide with solicitors winning the right to move into the higher courts — which has traditionally been the monopoly of the Bar — and to take on some of the work that would previously have gone to barristers.

Last week Richard Stowe, the first solicitor to exercise his High Court rights, said his law firm, SJ Berwin & Co, expected to do about 25 per cent of its High Court work in-house.

Up to now, about 1,000 solicitors have applied for the increased rights of audience in the higher courts.

Traditionally, because of the Bar's monopoly of the higher courts, solicitors have controlled access to barristers and only they could deal directly with counsel.

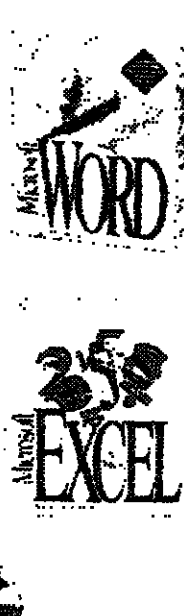
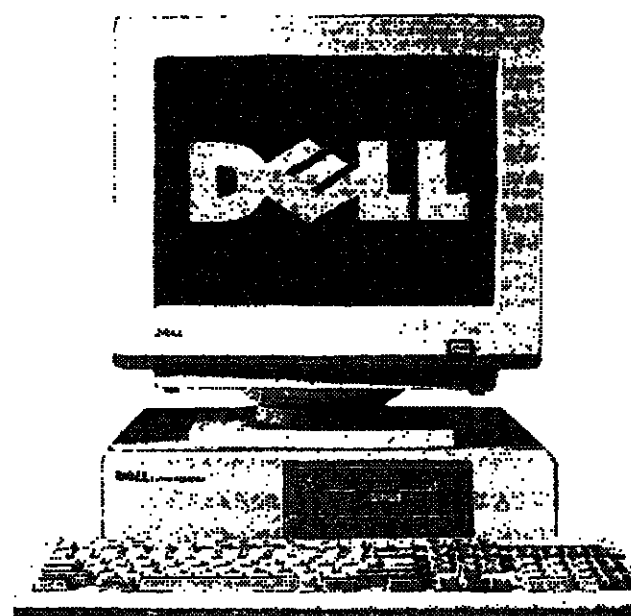
In recent years, however, with increased competition between solicitors and barristers, the direct access rule has been relaxed a little in order to allow some other professionals to approach barristers direct.

There are also anomalies. For example, foreign clients with foreign disputes can deal with the English Bar on a direct basis, unlike clients in this country.

The consultation paper to be published next week will outline various ways of further relaxing the rules on direct access, so that members of the public can, for example, approach barristers direct for advice.

One barrister said yesterday: "We are not going to turn ourselves into solicitors. But we are thinking of how a member of the public could come to a barrister on certain matters and then go back to a solicitor when the solicitor is needed."

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## BBC to launch news channel in US

By Alexandra Frean  
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE BBC is to launch a 24-hour news and information cable television service in the US. The channel, which will rival Cable News Network (CNN), is part of the BBC's ambitious expansion package designed to exploit its worldwide reputation and meet growing competition from global media groups.

The new station, part of BBC World Service Television, will be on air by early 1995 at the latest and launched

in conjunction with one or more major American backers. It will broadcast a mix of news and current affairs programmes and light factual shows such as *The Clothes Show* and *Film 94*.

Announcing plans for the new station at the Financial Times Cable & Satellite conference in London yesterday, Bob Phillips, the BBC's deputy director-general, said the corporation was also seeking to create a number of new cable or satellite entertainment channels for each major region of the world. "The BBC

should retain its core role at the heart of British broadcasting and become a major world player in the new international multi-media markets."

He stressed that the new channel would offer a "niche" service, which would be distinctive from anything already on offer in America. It will rival CNN, the US-based 24-hour international news channel, although he denied they would compete directly.

He added that the expansion plans would not be funded by Government grant or the television licence fee, but by money generated by the BBC's own commercial activities, such as programme sales and subscription services, which currently bring in £50 million a year.

The BBC is seeking to form a series of partnerships with media groups throughout the world to gain access to more funding, expertise and technology.

The corporation's global expansion plans also include launching a WSTV News and Information channel in Europe by the end of this year to complement its existing satellite entertainment channel, which already has two million subscribers on the

European continent. Mr Phillips also confirmed that WSTV's new Arab language channel would be on air within three months and that its new Japanese service would start broadcasting by the summer.

The plans will massively increase the reach of WSTV, which the BBC hopes eventually to take all around the globe. Launched in 1991, WSTV reaches audiences throughout Asia, Africa, Canada and Eastern Europe.

Mr Phillips' speech will be seen as an important statement of intent for the BBC at a crucial point in its history. The Government is drawing up plans for its future beyond the expiry of its charter in 1996 and has repeatedly urged the BBC to become a major player in the mushrooming multi-media market.

Mr Phillips also said WSTV wanted to continue broadcasting on the Asiasat satellite controlled by the News Corporation, which also controls News International, owner of *The Times*. In spite of a recent dispute between the two organisations, he said: "Discussions are taking place between the BBC and News Corps to that end."

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## Millions of Britons endure life with noisy neighbours

By NICK NUTTALL  
ENVIRONMENT  
CORRESPONDENT

BOOMING music, banging doors and chatter from the house next door and traffic noise are blighting the lives of up to 18 million people, according to a survey published today.

Environment researchers found that nearly a third of Britons claim their home life is being spoiled by noise from neighbours, road traffic, aircraft and trains. Their findings indicate that the levels of noise pollution are rising, particularly from "amplified music, noisy animals and peoples' voices".

The study, which will be presented to a National Society for Clean Air and Environmental Protection seminar in Birmingham, questioned 2,373 adults from randomly selected households in 1991. The report claims official statistics on noise complaints greatly underestimate the harm it can cause to people's lives and health.

Colin Grimwood, a researcher with the Environment Department's Building Research Establishment, said that between 60 and 70 per cent of people who endure noise from neighbours never complain. A small number

Many people believe they are powerless to act, but environmental health officers have a battery of legislation at their disposal

approach neighbours directly and some consider direct or violent measures. Only 10 per cent will contact a council's environmental health officer, who may have powers to end the misery.

The survey found that nearly 30 per cent of those questioned claimed they were adversely affected by traffic noise, 22 per cent objected to noise from neighbours, 16 per cent suffered from aircraft noise and 4 per cent from train noise.

A similar survey carried out in the late 1980s found that 11 per cent of people were affected by traffic and 14 per cent by noisy neighbours.

Mr Grimwood said people reacted to noise, particularly from neighbours, in a variety of ways. These included irritation, anger, a desire to move house, fatigue and depression.

Many of those questioned said telephone conversations, reading and sleeping were disrupted by noises from next door.

Men tended to use words such as hatred, hostility, revenge, strangle and kill to

describe their reactions. Women often suppressed emotions, focusing on themselves rather than on the perpetrators next door. They reported feeling gound down, weary and upset. Others reported migraines and headaches.

Voices were the most frequently reported sounds from next door. Ten per cent of those surveyed said they could hear them and more than half objected.

Mr Grimwood said the impact of a noise depended on how loud it was, how long it lasted and the type of noise. For example, neighbours laughing were often said to be enjoyable sounds, while heavy traffic and emotionally charged or frightening noises such as arguments or children crying triggered stressful or violent moods.

Sounds that were unpredictable, perceived as inconsiderate or unfamiliar also trigger hostile or distressed reactions. These included alarms, building work with no foreseeable date of completion, engines being revved and foxes crying.

Howard Price, of the Institute of Environmental Health Officers in London, said many people wrongly believed they were powerless to act.

He said action could be taken under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and laws that came into force in January covering nuisance noise on streets.

The Act allows environmental health officers to serve noise abatement notices, enforceable in the courts, on households that cause a nuisance. People can also take out private prosecutions.

Mr Price said people could cause a noise problem not because they were unreasonable but because the building in which they lived had poor sound insulation.



Humphrey Burrington with his wife's Riley Kestrel: "She loved the car. I never drove it once. It was her baby"

## Only one careful lady owner ... honestly

By JOHN SHAW

A CLASSIC car that really has had only one careful lady owner is to change hands shortly for the first time in 56 years. Ruth Owen bought the sleek 2.5-litre Riley Kestrel direct from the factory in Coventry for about £1,000 in 1938.

She died, aged 90, last month and the old faithful is to be sold for an estimate of between £7,000 and £10,000 at Sotheby's in London on February 28.

JC 5016, still with its original red-leather seats, three huge front headlights and huge AA badge, represented one of the finest Riley marques. The cars came into production too late to save the company, which was forced to call in the receivers just before the Second World War. It then became part of the Nuffield empire.

Miss Owen came from a wealthy family in Wolverhampton and was the only woman member of the pre-

war British showjumping team.

She met President Hindenburg and was briefly in the company of Adolf Hitler during the Berlin horse show in the mid-1930s.

In 1943 she met and married Humphrey Burrington, who was a Hurricane pilot during the war. He said yesterday: "She loved the car and always registered it as an owner-driver. I never drove it once. It was her baby."

"She called it Jezebel, probably because it was a bit of a devil at the beginning. But she knew Victor Riley personally and he sorted the trouble out on the track at Brooklands."

"The car meant a lot to her. In fact, if it was a cold night and likely to be frosty she would often say to me, 'Is Jezebel all right? Is the tank empty?'"

She also hand-painted the car canary yellow. It was last registered about 1988. It has



Ruth Burrington: paid £1,000 for car in 1938

been sitting on jacks since then and Sotheby's has recommended that the new owner put the car through a thorough servicing.

The veteran will be sold with a unique pedigree: the only one-owner 16-horsepower "big four" known to The Riley Register, the club for the marque's enthusiasts.

Mr Burrington said that over the years the car had been looked after by an expert on Rileys "who knows more about it than I do". "The engine's been rebored and it's had new piston rings."

He said the speedometer showed 15,600 miles. "But I should think that it is really 115,600. She used it quite a bit at one time, but not very much in the last 30 years and hardly at all in the last ten."

Malcolm Barber, head of Sotheby's car department, said yesterday: "Mileage doesn't really matter with a car of that age because the true enthusiast will be interested in a ground-up rebuild."

"He will be buying the Riley tradition. They were fine, quality cars. You wouldn't get the owner of the company personally sorting out a customer's problems like that today."

"Victor Riley was exceptional, but the Blue Streak chassis, which this car is built on, unfortunately came out too late to save the firm."

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Girl, 3, saw mother die from drugs

A girl aged three was found cuddling the body of her dead mother after the woman had taken a drug overdose, an inquest was told yesterday.

Sineade Wilkinson called out "I can't wake my Mum" as Anna Wilkinson's concerned boyfriend broke into her flat in Southsea, Hampshire, in January.

Miss Wilkinson, 29, a registered drug addict, had taken an overdose of anti-depressant pills. The coroner at Portsmouth, Peter Latham, recorded an open verdict after hearing that she would have made provision for Sineade's care if she had intended to take her own life.

#### Inquest opens

Sgt Derek Robertson, who was killed trying to stop a post office raid last week, died from multiple stab wounds, an inquest at St Pancras, London, was told. The inquest was adjourned.

#### Fire death

A girl died and her mother was seriously injured after a fire at their home in Liverpool. Liz Fickett, 34, was sleeping with Ebony, 8, when the fire started. Her son and other daughter were in a comfortable condition in hospital.

#### Remains found

A partially clothed skeleton found at a building site in Herne Bay, Kent, is that of Betty Gillis, 47, who disappeared from her home in 1980.

#### All change

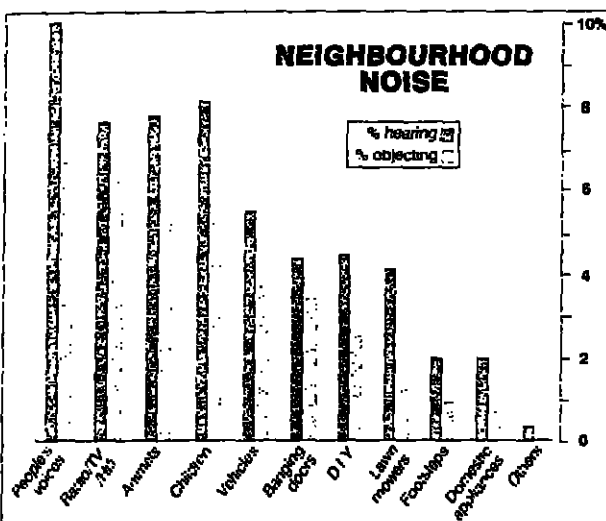
The large £10 note with a picture of Florence Nightingale, first issued in 1975, will not be legal tender after May 20.

#### On the hoof

A prisoner who had to appear in Harrogate was transported in a police horsebox that was taking the same route.

#### Earth quakes

Parts of East Anglia suffered an earth tremor measuring 3.5 on the Richter scale.



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The growing number of 16-year-olds staying in education are to have a wider choice

## Patten gives green light to new era of sixth forms

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

THE first of a new wave of school sixth forms will receive the go-ahead today in a Government initiative to increase competition for the growing number of students taking A levels and vocational courses.

John Patten, the Education Secretary, is expected to approve a dozen applications from schools around England. The successful candidates will be pioneers in an attempt to reverse a 20-year decline in the number of sixth forms, hit by a switch to further education and sixth form colleges. The new sixth forms will be offered improved funding to enable them to compete on equal terms with the colleges.

Most of the schools, chosen from almost 40 who expressed interest, will be grant maintained. The list, however, will include some local authority comprehensives in areas where the number of 16-year-olds remaining in education has been growing rapidly.

The scheme is part of the Education Department's contribution to the Government's back to basics policy. Mr Patten believes many parents and teenagers want a return to the continuity offered by school sixth forms, many of which closed in local reorganisations.

In many areas, colleges have acquired a monopoly of state provision after the age of 16. The reinstatement of sixth forms has become a common demand of schools opting out of local authority control. Mr Patten had approved six applications from grant maintained schools before the latest initiative was launched.

When Mr Patten first floated his scheme last November, he described schools without sixth forms as a "body without a head". He said the scheme would enable schools to attract better staff and improve

their academic atmosphere. The new independent further education sector, which includes sixth form colleges, has been given an increase in funding to cater for 25 per cent more students over three years. Almost half of those taking A levels do so in colleges, but Mr Patten wants more competition.

Some head teachers have complained of unfair competition since the colleges were granted independence, and new contracts for further education staff are expected to cut costs still further next year.

The proportion of 16-year-olds staying on in education has risen from 42 per cent in 1979 to more than 70 per cent this year. But ministers have found that many schools still have the capacity to take more pupils at relatively low cost.

Applications from the 12 successful schools and about six others were vetted by Her Majesty's Inspectorates. All were required to show that they could deliver a viable range of subjects at reasonable cost and that their proposals would increase local choice and diversity.

However, the scheme received a lukewarm reception from head teachers. The Secondary Heads Association said there were dangers in approving more sixth forms unless the Government's criteria for selection were strictly applied.

Russell Clarke, the association's assistant general secretary, said: "The idea might seem simple and attractive enough, but this may be an area where market forces are not the only consideration."

"We do not see huge unmet demand for sixth form places, and the danger is that you create a number of small sixth forms which cannot offer the range of subjects that larger colleges can."



St Paul's pupils: Keith Allen, John West, Gavin Wilson and Kuli Sohal

## Bosses blame teachers for army of poor spellers

BY OUR EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

NINE out of ten employers believe teachers are failing to ensure that school-leavers have a proper command of the English language, according to a study yesterday.

The Queen's English Society said a national survey of 250 companies found that one in three was concerned about recruits' poor spelling. Employers said only one in seven school-leavers was "good" at written English and one in three youngsters aged 16 to 18 could not speak English properly. They also complained that some

university graduates spoke poorly and struggled with spelling, grammar and punctuation. Common spelling errors included separate for separate, liaison for liaison, accommodate for accommodate, pursue for pursue and business for business.

Dr Bernard Lamb of London University, the report's author, said: "The report shows how completely untrained many school and college-leavers are for real life. Many don't have a basic knowledge of spelling, grammar and punctuation, and they can't even write an application in decent English." Michael Russell,

vice-chairman of the society, said the findings were bleak and demanded that teachers increase efforts to teach basics of grammar and punctuation.

The National Association for the Teaching of English dismissed the survey as misleading. Anne Barnes, the general secretary, said every generation complained that the generation before did not read, write or speak as well. She said: "Just as many, if not more, young people today are better equipped to work in business than 50 years ago."

Teaching is an unattractive career option for the best students, according

to a study for the National Commission on Education published yesterday. Only one in ten students expecting to gain a first-class degree wanted to teach, compared with more than a quarter of those expecting a third-class degree.

The survey of 1,400 final-year undergraduates found that 39 per cent of students expecting a first and 36 per cent of those aiming for an upper-second had ruled out teaching as a career. John Hillman, the report's author, said: "Teaching is not popular among those for whom there is the greatest need within the profession."

## Air waves 'must not fall prey to PC'

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

BROADCASTERS are being urged not to fall victim to the fad for political correctness, but to apply common sense judgments in their use of language.

In its new code of practice, published yesterday, the Broadcasting Standards Council warned that the "over-rigid observance of proscriptions on the use of language" and "clumsy and ungrammatical circumlocutions" aimed at avoiding offence were more likely to impede understanding than improve it.

Lady Howe, a self-avowed feminist who is nonetheless happy to be referred to as the council's chairman, said that broadcasters risked stifling innovation by being too "PC".

"There is no need to go over the top in trying to choose the apparently correct word," she said.

Colin Shaw, the council's director, said: "Over-reliance on particular approved sets of words seems to be limiting."

The council will not be drawing up a glossary of banned PC words, but it has asked broadcasters to respect the underlying arguments for political correctness. Words implying disapproval, such as spastic, or those with racist connotations were being regarded increasingly as deeply offensive, he said.

The new code is an updated version of the Council's original blueprint on taste and decency in broadcasting, first published in 1989.

Fittingly, the warning about the potentially pernicious effects of watching Westerns on television outlined in the 1989 code, has been replaced with an equally dire caution about the effects of a new genre of entertainment from Japan, known as "Manga" cartoons. Although shown only rarely on television, these computerised animations, often based on stories of gangland warfare and shot through with gore, are approaching cult status in this country.

The council points out that the majority of parents do not tend to regard animated series as dangerous and urges broadcasters to pay greater attention to the scheduling of such material.

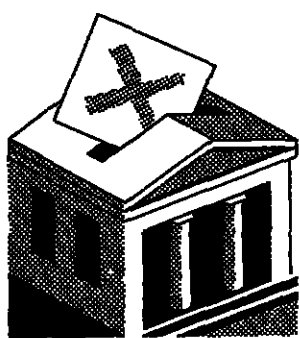
## Tory council vows £291 tax ceiling

BY IAN MURRAY

TORIES on Westminster Council yesterday launched a campaign to retain control of their flagship local authority by promising to send out the lowest council tax bills in the country.

Westminster includes some of the most expensive property in Britain, but no resident will have to pay more than £291. The average Band D household will be charged just £245.

The proposed budget also includes provision for pushing up capital spending on council homes by £68 million, an increase of nearly 25 per cent. This promise is meant to show the party cares about council tenants and did not sell homes for votes in order to win marginal wards in local elections, as claimed in the audi-



tor's provisional report last month.

This is all being done without dipping into the council's £20 million reserves, which are among the largest of any local authority in the country. The hope is that this package will convince a majority of voters at the local elections in May that the council is being run efficiently and is not guilty

of gerrymandering. The proposed £195 million Westminster budget means that most householders will see a small increase in their tax, but this is because transitional relief from central government has been cut by nearly £11 million. Westminster has overcome this by making savings of £10 million.

Simon Broekleworth-Fowler, chairman of the finance committee, said: "The message to the voter is quite blunt. By management efficiency and long-term planning, we know how to keep costs down in a way Labour do not. Residents here see the report on gerrymandering as an esoteric exercise. There is no accusation of personal misconduct. It is just a matter of political misjudgment."

Labour, which believes the gerrymandering issue has given

it its best chance of taking Westminster from the Conservatives for the first time, concedes that the promised low council tax is a powerful argument in the election campaign. The party points out that taxpayers will face an average 20 per cent increase, but accepts that the level is still going to be low.

Peter Bradley, the council's Labour leader, said: "It is a good point for them in the election campaign, but they have an obsession with electoral advantage by reducing council tax. Their priority is to cut services in order to be able to cut taxes. That is not what local government should be about."

The battle for Westminster will be among the fiercest, with the Conservatives desperate to avoid the humiliation forecast by opinion polls.

## TRAVEL section

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THE TIMES



## KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

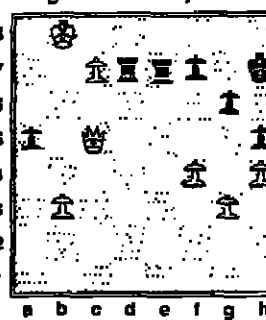
THE leader in the Goodricke International tournament in Calcutta is the Indian national champion Praveen Thipsay. Here he defeats Tony Miles in a game where the English Grandmaster overestimates his chances.

White: Praveen Thipsay  
Black: Tony Miles  
Calcutta, February 1994  
Nimzowitsch Defence

- |    |      |       |
|----|------|-------|
| 1  | d4   | Nc6   |
| 2  | d4   | b5    |
| 3  | dxc5 | Nxc5  |
| 4  | Nf3  | Bb4+  |
| 5  | c3   | Rxd3+ |
| 6  | Qxd3 | Bc5   |
| 7  | Bc3  | Sxc3  |
| 8  | Cxc3 | Nf6   |
| 9  | Nd2  | Q-O   |
| 10 | Bd3  | Re8   |
| 11 | O-O  | d5    |
| 12 | Rae1 | Bf6   |
| 13 | Qf3  | dxc4  |
| 14 | Nxc4 | Qd2   |
| 15 | Bxc4 | Nxc4  |
| 16 | Rd2  | Nxd2  |
| 17 | Rxd2 | Nxd1  |
| 18 | Qd7  | c6    |
| 19 | Kd1  | g6    |
| 20 | g3   | Kg7   |
| 21 | Qa6  | h5    |
| 22 | b3   | Re5   |
| 23 | h4   | Rf5   |
| 24 | Qa5  | Rf6   |
| 25 | g4   | Re7   |
| 26 | h4   | Re7   |
| 27 | Qd8  | Re6   |

- |    |      |               |
|----|------|---------------|
| 28 | Qa5  | a6            |
| 29 | Qd8  | Rc6           |
| 30 | Qe7  | Rf6           |
| 31 | Qe5  | Kf7           |
| 32 | Qd7  | Rd6           |
| 33 | Kf2  | Kg7           |
| 34 | Qa5  | Rd2+          |
| 35 | Kf3  | Rxa2          |
| 36 | Qxc5 | a5            |
| 37 | Qd4  | Rc2           |
| 38 | Qc5  | Rc1           |
| 39 | Qd2  | Rd1           |
| 40 | Qc3  | Rd1           |
| 41 | c5   | Rd7           |
| 42 | Ke4  | Rd7           |
| 43 | c6   | Re7+          |
| 44 | Kd4  | Kf7           |
| 45 | Kc5  | Rf5+          |
| 46 | Nb6  | Re6           |
| 47 | Ke7  | Rf6           |
| 48 | Kb7  | Re7+          |
| 49 | c7   | Rd6           |
| 50 | Qc5  | Rd7           |
| 51 | Kb6  | Black resigns |

Diagram of final position



Winning Move, page 44

## After 62 years, Mr Morris thought he'd seen everything.

Like most people in, or approaching retirement, Mr Morris thought he'd pretty much seen it all.

Until his last home insurance bill arrived.

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Saga Mailing No. (if known)	Is a 5 lever Mortice lock fitted to the front exit door and bolts fitted to all other external doors? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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Terraced House <input type="checkbox"/> Detached Bungalow <input type="checkbox"/>	Services Ltd
Semi-detached Bungalow <input type="checkbox"/> Flat/Maisonette <input type="checkbox"/>	Only from SAGA. Only for you.
Other <input type="checkbox"/> Please specify	
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## Trade curbs hamper birth of democracy says Portillo

By NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE European Community is hampering the birth of democracy in Eastern Europe by restricting free trade, Michael Portillo, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said yesterday.

Amid a new outbreak of Tory feuding over Europe, and only ten days after he was forced to withdraw blanket criticism of foreigners, Mr Portillo condemned the Community's reluctance to open up its markets to imports from Eastern Europe and attacked its record on job creation.

"If we are to demonstrate to the new democracies of Eastern Europe that we are in support of their liberal democracies, then we have to recognise the intimate connection between political and economic freedom, and between economic freedom and free trade," Mr Portillo told the American Chamber of Commerce in London.

"We have put restrictions on Polish suits, we have been very reluctant to admit Czech and Slovak steel, and we have been rigidly about sauerkraut and jam," he said.

Comparing the European Union unfavourably with the United States and Japan, he said that long holidays and

words of Norman Lamont are on everybody's lips.

Mr Heseltine said that a single currency was "not on the agenda". He suggested that in the eyes of many Tory MPs Mr Lamont's outspoken criticism of the European exchange-rate mechanism and a single currency were motivated by pique at being sacked as Chancellor.

Mr Heseltine's comments were privately echoed by loyalist ministers, who described the former Chancellor as a "sad man" without a following in the Commons or the country. But Mr Lamont received support from the Euro-sceptic wing of the party. Roger Knapman, MP for Stroud and a ringleader of the Maastricht rebels, said: "Norman was a Chancellor who absolutely understood financial and economic policies and as a consequence many colleagues will be listening carefully to what he has to say. When it comes to the choice between style and substance, most of us prefer the latter."

In his speech yesterday Mr Portillo said that Britain's continental partners were pricing themselves out of jobs. Praising President Clinton's support for free trade, he called for a joint Anglo-American effort to reverse the tide.

"The world does not owe Europe a living — a fact that Europe needs to understand. There is a pressing need for free-trading nations like Britain and America to join together to combat protectionism and uncompetitive structures. It is vital that we improve our competitiveness because Europe's competitiveness has been declining."

"Europe has a whole tendency to have the highest wage costs without high productivity, some of the longest holidays and some of the shortest working weeks in the world."

Over the past 20 years the United States had created jobs at the rate of 2 per cent a year, and Japan had managed 1 per cent, Mr Portillo said. The EU had lagged behind at the rate of less than 0.5 per cent a year. This was because of Europe's high unit wage costs, which had grown at the rate of 4 per cent a year on average in the 1980s, much higher than America's 1 per cent and Japan's zero.

The British Government had recognised this and taken steps, such as trade union reform and deregulation, to boost domestic competitiveness. Companies across Europe were saying they could operate more competitively in Britain than in any other part of the EU.



Portillo: "Europe has highest wage costs"

short working weeks meant that in some European countries an employee cost as much in "extras" as in wages.

Although he was careful not to stray beyond the bounds of Government policy, Mr Portillo's Thatcherite critique of the EU served to highlight the tensions within the Tory Party as it prepares for the European elections in June.

These divisions were exposed yesterday by Michael Heseltine's scornful dismissal of Norman Lamont's call for a referendum if Britain ever wants to join a single European currency. The President of the Board of Trade, one of the Cabinet's foremost pro-Europeans, said: "Norman has his views... But I don't think you will find that, in the pubs and clubs of Britain, the



## Liberal Democrat tax plans shift burden to the rich

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Liberal Democrats are set to fight the next general election on a platform of higher taxes for the wealthy and a £5-a-week increase in child benefit.

A discussion document proposes that the party retains its 1992 manifesto commitment to introduce two higher tax rates while raising the threshold for the first higher band. It indicates that a top band of at least 50 per cent will be introduced for those earning over £50,000.

This contrasts with Labour's decision to throw out its manifesto tax proposals. The report, leaked to *The Times*, says that "the first higher rate should start at an income level significantly above that at which the current 40 per cent rate starts". The top rate would be charged only "on very high incomes".

The ceiling for national insurance contributions would be lifted, effectively adding 10 per cent to higher tax rates.

Well-placed party sources said that the rates were expected to be similar to the manifestos

pledges. These proposed a combined rate of 42 per cent on earnings above £33,000 (including national insurance contributions) and a combined rate of 50 per cent for those earning over £50,000.

The discussion document also suggests that the allowance for married couples should be abolished to fund a £5-a-week increase in child benefit per family. The change would raise extra revenue for the exchequer.

The working party which has drawn up the paper, chaired by Sir William Goodhart, has opted to retain child benefit as a universal benefit, which would remain untaxed and not means tested.

However, it is now discussing the option of paying more for children under five and less to those over 11. It also proposes paying child benefit for those aged 16-18 who are still in full-time education directly to the teenagers. "This would provide young children with an incentive to stay on in education post-16," the paper says.

One of the more controversial proposals is support for earmarked taxes. In the past the Liberal Democrats have proposed an extra 1p on tax for education. The new document makes it clear that this would be extended to other areas such as health. "Liberal Democrats believe that politicians should be honest about taxation, saying what it is for and obtaining public consent for it. Taxpayers know that if they want good public services they have to pay for them. Increasingly, however, they are not prepared to sign a blank cheque and trust the politicians to spend money wisely."

A separate working party has been established to look at earmarked taxes. The policy document also hardens the party's proposals on abolishing mortgage tax relief. Previous party policy proposed phasing out mortgage tax relief for new homebuyers but keeping it for existing owners. The new paper says tax relief should be phased out across the board.

## French pose threat to European elections

By ROBERT MORGAN, POLITICAL STAFF

THE European Parliament elections in June could be thrown into chaos because of the attitude of the French, the Government admitted last night. Peter Lloyd, a Home Office Minister, told the Commons that unless the French Government endorses proposals for an increase in its number of seats, as decided by the Edinburgh EC summit in December, 1992, the elections in Britain will have to be fought on existing boundaries.

Under the Edinburgh deal, England gets an extra five seats and Wales a further one. Germany and France also get extra seats, but all 12 members of the European Union have to ratify the changes or none can come into effect.

In the Commons last night, MPs approved by a majority of 297 an order increasing the number of seats in Britain from 78 to 84. Northern Ireland will continue to have three seats elected by proportional representation. British political parties are already selecting candidates to fight the 87 seats on June 9 and campaigning plans are being drawn up. The practical deadline for ratification by all 12 states is March 31.

Unless the French Government has a change of heart by then, the elections in Britain would have to be fought on the existing 81 boundaries.

The French are delaying matters in an attempt to force the European parliament to agree to an expansion of the Palais de l'Europe building in Strasbourg where the plenary sessions are held.

Mr Lloyd told MPs that he hoped and expected French concerns would be settled in the next few weeks. "I think the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, will be becoming increasingly concerned if there is not a conclusion by mid-April," he said.

Graham Allen, for the Opposition, said that whatever the Commons decided might be overturned by the inability of the French to ratify their part of the arrangement. He said: "We are looking forward to the elections in June when the Conservatives, riddled by division and disagreement, will suffer further losses."

MPs also approved, by a 319 majority, plans which would allow citizens of other EU states living in Britain to vote for the first time here in the June European elections and to stand as candidates.

### In Parliament

Commons (230): Questions: environment. Channel tunnel security order.  
Lords (230): Debates on inquisitorial tribunals procedures; vehicle thefts; the processing of Jamaican visitors on December 21.

## Tories welcome Labour fight in Eastleigh poll

John Smith's promise that Labour will campaign all-out in the Eastleigh by-election is the best news that Conservative Central Office has had for a long time. The Tories need Labour to do reasonably well if they are to have any hope of holding the seat.

The Conservatives have won the last four general elections because the opposition vote has been split. Nearly two-fifths of Tory MPs were elected with less than 50 per cent of the total vote. But that has been under threat from the advance of the Liberal Democrats in parts of southern England, particularly the South West. The party captured the Newbury and Christchurch seats in by-elections not just by winning over disillusioned former Tories but also by squeezing the Labour vote.

The immediate assumption was that the same would happen in Eastleigh. The Liberal Democrats came second there in 1992 with 28 per cent of the vote, more than at Christchurch, and they did well in the county elections last May, taking nearly half the vote. But they have been less successful on the district council and the early word is that the party does not have an obviously strong candidate, local or otherwise.

Labour is better placed at Eastleigh than at Newbury and Christchurch. The party took nearly 21 per cent of the vote there in 1992, compared with 6 and 12 per cent respectively in the other two seats. Labour has also done well in neighbouring South-



ampton, where John Denham won twice two years ago. He has argued that Labour must counter-attack in the south.

Party strategists want to avoid the impression created at last year's by-elections that the Labour is tacitly accepting that the Liberal Democrats are the main challengers in some Tory seats.

That ties in with the aggressively anti-Liberal



Denham: called for a counter-attack

Democrat stance adopted by Margaret Beckett, Labour's campaign co-ordinator, and by Jack Straw, its local government spokesman.

The Liberal Democrats still have the edge in Eastleigh. But a more credible and active Labour campaign could hold back the Liberal Democrats and allow the Conservatives to squeak back with around 40 per cent of the vote, or even less.

That may still be improbable given the national polls. But it is at least possible.

A strong Labour performance could also save some Tory MEPs in June's elections. Even now, just one of the 32 Tory MEPs holds a seat with more than half the total vote and most others will only hold on with a split opposition vote.

The Tories' real fear is of big Liberal Democrat gains in the European elections: more than, say, three seats in the far South West. That would unsettle Tory MPs much more than the probable further gains by Labour suggested by the polls. So it is in the Tories' interest to bolster Labour in the short-term, to perpetuate a split vote and prevent Liberal Democrat gains.

These calculations affect the timing of Eastleigh. By convention the by-election should be held within three months of a vacancy. That would mean May 5, local election day.

But even with a vigorous Labour campaign, there is still a strong chance of a Liberal Democrat victory, which would give the party ample publicity and momentum for the European elections campaign.

Hence some Tories want the by-election to be delayed until June 9, the date of the European elections.

In the short-term, the Tories' only strategy is damage limitation, and hoping that Labour and the Liberal Democrats will continue to fight each other.

PETER RIDDELL

THE TIMES

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## Prime Minister bolsters Yeltsin in battle against Zhirinovsky's anti-West rhetoric

## Russia and UK abandon the tit-for-tat missile threat

FROM PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR, AND ANNE McELVOY IN MOSCOW

BRITAIN and Russia sealed their closer relationship yesterday by agreeing to stop targeting each other with nuclear missiles from May.

Under a deal signed after two-and-a-half hours of Kremlin talks between John Major and President Yeltsin, each country's guidance system will be reprogrammed so that it no longer automatically aims at the other.

In a second development marking a further step away from the confrontation of the Cold War, armed forces of the two countries are to have joint exercises to improve their ability to work together on peacekeeping missions. The exercises will be the first substantial military co-operation between them since the Second World War.

The two moves are also designed to boost Mr Yeltsin in his domestic struggle with

Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the far-right leader who has conjured up a vision of a West invariably hostile to Russia.

The military exercises will begin in 1995 and are a follow-up to the Partnership for Peace proposals agreed by the Nato summit in January. Co-operation will also be enhanced by a new agreement preventing businesses that invest in Britain and Russia from being taxed in both, as well as by a fresh cultural accord. Further boosts will come from today's expected announcement of more British money for the know-how fund that helps companies to set up business in Russia, and a new £4 million fund to assist the training of managers and executives in the market system.

Mr Yeltsin, looking tired from the effects of a heavy cold, emphasised his commitment to pressing ahead with the reform process. "There will be no turning back," he is reported to have told the Prime Minister.

Russian sources added that Mr Yeltsin had explained last month's Cabinet changes in which less radical figures emerged predominant, saying that he had felt pressed to respond to the strong showing by Mr Zhirinovsky in last December's elections. "The aim remains the same — a free market and a free society," he said. Mr Zhirinovsky was not invited to the British embassy lunch hosted by Mr Major for parliamentarians.



Zhirinovsky: not asked to attend Major's lunch

Air-strike rift, page 1



John Major and Boris Yeltsin toasting each other in the Kremlin yesterday after confirming the closer relationship between Britain and Russia

## Kremlin gives Major a little basic help

FROM PHILIP WEBSTER AND ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin's protocol chiefs went to the aid of John Major yesterday in his attempt to prevent his Russian visit being hijacked by domestic affairs.

The Prime Minister's officials had already warned journalists covering his trip that they would be wasting their time if they asked him about his faltering back-to-basics campaign at his brief press conference with Mr Yeltsin after their talks in the Kremlin.

Nevertheless, some doughty professionals headed for the Kremlin determined to try their luck. Then Russian bureaucracy stepped in... the press conference had suddenly been moved from the opulent and spacious St Vladimir's Hall to the equally imposing but slightly cramped Red Room, apparently because the previous ven-

ue had been reserved for a domestic press conference.

They were told that only ten representatives of the British media, including television technicians, would be allowed in. Only one representative from the British tabloids got through the net.

As it happened, Mr Major need not have worried. Bosnia dominated the brief and chaotic press event, during which there was no audible translation of the words of either leader, leaving British and Russian reporters looking equally bemused.

Back to basics did not get an airing, but later television reporters sought to get round the "gag" with skilfully contrived questions during a series of interviews with the Prime Minister after his talks with Russian leaders. The intrepid political editor of Sky

Television even mentioned the dread slogan when he asked how Mr Major proposed to deal with criticism from Tory MPs and from Norman Lamont on the exchange-rate mechanism.

Unruffled, Mr Major replied that politics was a turbulent trade. He added that if people did not like turbulence, they should not go into politics. He took a similar line with a questioner who asked whether Mr Major and Mr Yeltsin could cope with all the criticism that came their way. If they did not like criticism, they should not be in politics, he said.

Nobody could accuse Mr Major of hiding from the press. Last night, he and Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, were holding an on-the-record briefing at the British embassy.

Earlier, Mr Major and Mr Yeltsin

had exchanged pleasantries about tennis and cricket at their meeting, although the 62-year-old Russian President looked in no condition to lift a racket. He is officially recovering from a heavy cold, and looked old and tired.

Mr Yeltsin's appearance will increase speculation about the general state of his health and over whether he will be in any condition to run again for election as President in 1996. In a statement that may fuel the speculation rather than damp it down, Vyacheslav Kostikov, the presidential spokesman, hit out at such talk yesterday, saying that "speculations based on rumours and malevolence about the health of Boris Yeltsin look extremely ugly".

Michael Binyon, page 13

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## 'Rostov Ripper' Chikatilo executed

Moscow: Andrei Chikatilo, the Russian serial killer who was convicted of 52 murders after a 12-year rampage, has been executed.

A firing squad carried out the death sentence on Monday after President Yeltsin had rejected a plea for clemency, the Interfax news agency said. Chikatilo, known as the "Rostov Ripper", was found guilty of raping and murdering 21 boys aged between eight and 16, 14 girls aged between nine and 17, and 17 older women in Russia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan from 1978.

He was arrested in 1990. At his trial, his lawyer argued that he was insane, but psychiatrists denied this. (AP)

## 'Scream' cash

Oslo: Norway has offered a reward of £18,000 for the return of Edvard Munch's painting, "The Scream", which was stolen from the National Gallery. The thieves are said to have left a note that read: "Thanks for the poor security." (Reuters)

## D-Day Nazi ban

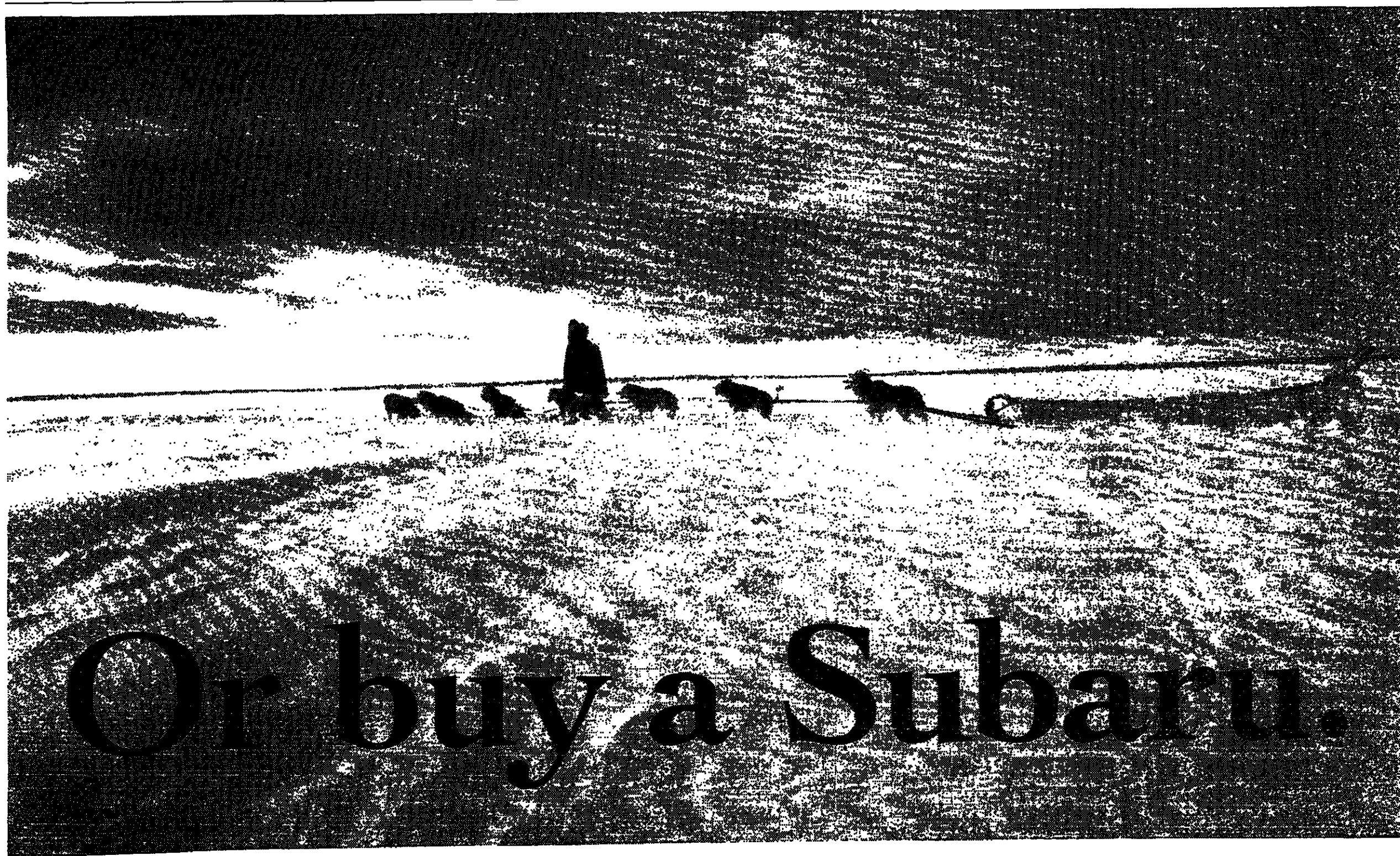
Paris: The prefect of the Calvados region, which includes most of the Normandy invasion beaches, has banned the sale of Nazi memorabilia before celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the D-Day Allied landings. (Reuters)

## Minsk protest

Minsk: Three thousand protesters demanded the resignation of the conservative Belorussian government of Vyacheslav Kebich over the reintroduction of food price controls. The demonstrators called for a general strike to back their demands. (AFP)

## Ports blockade

Paris: French fishermen blocked four Mediterranean ports for a second day to protest against cheap fish imports as their colleagues in Brittany voted on whether to end their two-week strike. (Reuters)



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Western ultimatum on artillery provokes rhetoric of brinkmanship from Bosnian Serb leadership

## Karadzic declares siege machine ready to pull back

FROM TIM JUDAH IN PALE

RADOVAN Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, says his forces are prepared to withdraw their artillery from around Sarajevo, adding: "We are not so stupid as to challenge Nato."

He was referring to the Western alliance's ultimatum to the Serbs that they withdraw their heavy guns from the hills above the capital, or place them under United Nations control, by midnight on Sunday or face air strikes. He made his announcement yesterday after spending the morning in conference with leading Serb military and political figures at Pale, their headquarters just outside Sarajevo, to plot the next move in the deadly war of nerves being waged with Nato.

General Manojlo Milovanovic, the Serbian Army Chief of Staff, appeared last Sunday to rule out any artillery withdrawals. He added that there would be no UN control of his siege guns until troops of the Muslim-led Bosnian Army in Sarajevo itself had been confined to barracks.

Dr Karadzic said yesterday that some Serb artillery would be withdrawn to barracks, but some would be sent "to new positions far from Sarajevo for defensive reasons, and some would be regrouped so as to decrease the number of artillery positions". He said this would be a help to the UN, which did not have enough troops on the ground to monitor all existing placements.

His statement appeared to be a clear signal that the

Bosnian Serbs are softening their position in the run-up to the deadline. It was also clear, however, that his announcement still fell far short of Nato's demands. These make clear that the Serbs should not control any heavy guns within a 12-mile exclusion zone. Clinton Administration officials have made clear that this is not negotiable.

Asked if UN control of artillery meant that the guns could not be used under any circumstances, Dr Karadzic was dismissive. That was a

### THE SERBS

"technical question" which still had to be worked out, he said. At present the symbolic number of weapons that the Serbs have put under "UN control" are in their own barracks where unarmed UN monitors have no more than visiting rights.

The contradictory statements, confusion and threats of air strikes of the past few days recall the situation last summer after Serb forces conquered Mount Igman and Mount Bjelasnica just outside Sarajevo. Then, as now, Serb generals vowed that there would be no retreat, the politicians took a more conciliatory line and Nato jets roared menacingly overhead.

After playing this brief, nerve-racking game of brinkmanship, the Serbs decided that the risk of staying on the mountains outweighed the risk of withdrawing. The

Serbs fear that, if they completely withdraw their artillery from around Sarajevo, that the Muslim-dominated Bosnian Army will advance and break the siege. Dr Karadzic yesterday softened the previously solid Serb linkage between artillery and infantry withdrawals to talk in far more vague terms about "strategic balance".

While the Bosnian Serbs are attempting to exploit differences between Nato and the UN, they are also constantly trying to see how much they can get away with. Another more fatalistic line of thought is, however, current among Bosnian Serb leaders at their headquarters in Pale. One said: "I'm afraid, but not only of air strikes. They are nothing." Many Serbs in fact believe that, whatever they do now, Nato is determined to strike, if only to paper over its own divisions. "The air strikes are likely to happen and we can't do anything about it," the official said.

Many in Pale firmly believe the Muslims will stage an incident, perhaps shooting UN troops, to try to have the Serbs blamed, so leaving Nato no room for flexibility. Air strikes would then follow. "We'll take down a few planes," the gloomy official predicted, "then there will be calls for retaliation. The logic of war is bad, it is the darkest thing you can imagine... when it starts, nobody will stop."

Air-strike rift, page 1



The Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, who spent yesterday plotting military strategy with his generals, said more artillery pieces would be removed

## Allies put 180 planes on alert for Sarajevo bombing run

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

NATO has assembled the largest collection of strike aircraft since the Gulf War and all are ready to participate in bombing Serb gun positions around Sarajevo from bases in Italy from midnight on Sunday.

The force of more than 180 aircraft, including bombers, airborne command and control Hercules, carrier-based fighters and reconnaissance planes, is on high alert.

As more fighter bombers continued to arrive at Italian bases in preparation for air strikes, Nato commanders in Naples, headquarters of Allied Forces Southern Europe, ensured that scores of aircraft were continuously flying over Bosnia-Herzegovina or en route as the countdown to the deadline continued.

The Nato planes are still flying close air support missions, but they will be in a position to switch immediately to strike operations once the order comes.

Military sources in Naples emphasised yesterday that the three aircraft carriers in the region, the American USS *Saratoga*, the British HMS *Ark Royal*, and the French *Foch*, on her way to the Adriatic, were not formally assigned to Nato. They remained under national control but each carrier had allocated aircraft for the bombing missions. The planes would be included in the Nato mission "once they had taken off".

The Americans have sent 77 aircraft to the region, including 18 on board the *Saratoga*. Other aircraft include eight advanced F15Es, sent to Aviano, 12 A10 "tank-busters" and five EC130 airborne battlefield command and control aircraft, also at Aviano.

The EC130s would play a vital role in any air strikes, masterminding the operation, in the same way that the Nato Awacs are acting as spies-in-the-sky for Operation Deny Flight, the mission running since April last year to stop the warring factions flying fighters and combat helicopters over Bosnia.

The British have deployed 28 aircraft, including 12 Jaguars at Gioia del Colle and six Sea Harriers on HMS *Ark Royal*. The French have 35 aircraft in the area, including six Super Etendard fighter bombers on the *Foch* which they have agreed to assign for the air strikes.

The Netherlands and Tur-

key have each sent 18 and Spain, one, a Casa 212 support aircraft. Ten Nato Awacs are also operating out of Geilenkirchen, Germany, and Waddington, Lincolnshire.

Although comparisons are being made with the Gulf War air campaign, the challenge is different. Low cloud cover, which normally affects parts of Bosnia almost every other day, will hamper proper identification of targets, although advanced radar can see effectively through clouds.

The timing of any decision to launch air strikes, in the event of the Serbs defying Nato's ultimatum to withdraw all their artillery 12 miles from the centre of Sarajevo or to place the guns under UN control, will depend on the weather and the availability of targetable gun positions.

So although the Nato deadline of midnight on Sunday still holds, there can be no guarantee that the first bombs will drop one minute after midnight. The timing of the first air raid will depend on

### NATO

the judgment of Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose, commander of the UN Protection Force troops in Bosnia.

This will have to include a full assessment of Serb compliance with the Nato ultimatum. Unprofor commanders will rely more on electronic surveillance than troops to monitor whether any heavy artillery has been hidden. General Rose requested high-tech surveillance equipment to enable troops to pinpoint artillery and small mortars as soon as they were fired.

Electronic surveillance will help the UN to enforce the ultimatum without deploying thousands of troops that would be necessary to control the thickly forested mountains overlooking Sarajevo.

Unprofor officials said they were confident that they could use electronic surveillance equipment to locate even small mortars. "The best weapon is a guy with a radio and a laser detector," one senior official said.

Yesterday details of Unprofor weapons control and surveillance were still being worked out as more troops deployed to Sarajevo to take control of Bosnian government and Serb weaponry in advance of the deadline.

## Guards fall in behind General 'Guns and Roses'

FROM ANTHONY LOYD, IN VITEZ, CENTRAL BOSNIA

AS EVENTS in Sarajevo shift towards possible Nato-Serb confrontation, the First Battalion Coldstream Guards cast a wary eye at the snowy peaks of Mount Vlasica that loom above their base in Vitez. Among the rocks are Serb 155mm batteries that could shred the British camp.

"For the first time our fate is linked to that of Sarajevo," Colonel Peter Williams said. For the past three months his men have found themselves deployed at the heart of the Croat-Muslim war. It has been easy to forget the Serbs, who except for the occasional shelling of nearby Travnik have been content to brood with their guns upon Vlasica five miles to the northwest. Lieutenant General Sir Mich-

ael Rose, the British commander of the United Nations forces in Bosnia-Herzegovina, has changed everything. Since General "Guns and Roses" Rose, as he is known among the troops, took command, the Coldstreamers' style of operations has changed dramatically. Colo-

### UK FORCES

nel Williams, a studious, reserved man, has conducted his battalion in a way far removed from the flamboyant interventionism of Colonel Bob Stewart, or the gritty bluntness of Lieutenant Colonel Alastair Duncan, his predecessors in Vitez, and he has attracted media criticism for

being over-cautious. General Rose and his message of "robustness" has shaken a meaner, less equivocal approach out of the Guards.

Ten days ago a British soldier was shot and wounded in a Land-Rover along a dangerous stretch of road south of Gornji Vakuf. The bullet came from a known Croat sniper position. Less than 24 hours later four armoured vehicles drove to the location and unleashed nearly 500 rounds. The sniper died. The official report said he had been raising his weapon to fire, but the message was clear, and was to do with "consequences", a word the general likes.

The situation in Sarajevo is a continuation of General

Rose's policy rather than a separate issue, and "consequences" may soon affect not only the warring factions.

"We believe we have a noble mission but are happy in a neutrality," Colonel Williams said wistfully. This neutrality is now threatened as air interdiction poses the UN as a fourth side in the conflict. Though air strikes would wound the Bosnian Serb military machine, the Achilles' heel for both Nato and the UN lies in the effect heavy casualties among troops would have on the political will of member nations. "All it takes is a 155mm [artillery impact] in the camp and the casualties would make the politicians' will crumble," remarked a British officer.



Europe poised at fatal crossroads on its troubled route out of Cold War

## Balkan city retakes place at heart of history

FROM MISHA GLENNY IN SARAJEVO

SARAJEVO has become the focus of a mighty game of brinkmanship. On a local level, it is being played by the familiar teams, the Bosnian Serbs, the mainly-Muslim Bosnian government and United Nations — all of them using the familiar tactics of bluff, bluster, crude cheating, threats and improvisation as

### ANALYSIS

General Sir Michael Rose, the UN forces commander, works hard to implement his plan for the withdrawal of heavy weapons in and about Sarajevo.

Entwined in the moves on the Sarajevo board, a much larger global game is under way whose principal players are the Americans and the Russians. Squeezed in between is the complex manoeuvring of Nato and the UN Security Council, while the British and French governments are involved in a desperate attempt for everybody to make friends and call this round a draw.

If that attempt fails, air strikes will be launched against Bosnian Serb positions around Sarajevo (and possibly other areas of Bosnia-Herzegovina). Europe will have reached a fateful crossroads on its troubled route out of the Cold War.

General Rose insists that only he may request the use of air strikes against either side which does not fulfil the terms of the agreement he brokered. American diplomats, however, are suggesting that if Nato governments are unhappy with the progress of the



The politics surrounding the besieged Bosnian capital as seen through the eyes of Turner at the Irish Times

withdrawal or handing in of weapons by next Sunday night, then Bosnian Serb positions will be taken out. As one of them put it: "We're serious this time."

Nato is the only international organisation concerned with the Bosnian crisis which has not yet damaged its reputation. "Having issued the ultimatum, Nato must act to retain its credibility if the Serbs are still in position after Sunday," said a Bosnian government spokesman.

By side-stepping the mechanisms of the UN Security Council, the Nato plan will run into Russian opposition and threaten co-operation between Moscow and Washington at a time when nationalist forces in Russia are applying considerable pressure on Pres-

ident Yeltsin. A senior member of the Bosnian military believes that the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina is becoming the focus of the growing rift between Russian and American foreign policy.

"The Americans have a single aim in this conflict," he said — "to establish a physical, military presence in the Balkans. The Russians, of course, consider this region to be much more their stomping ground than anybody else's."

It is this ghostly vision of the phoenix of imperialist struggle emerging from the ashes of Sarajevo which has prompted Britain and France to work closely on the implementation of the agreement devised by Yasushi Akashi, the UN head of mission in Zagreb, and General Rose. Last week both

men travelled to Belgrade where they warned the Serbian President, Slobodan Milosevic, that unless he persuaded the Bosnian Serbs to withdraw their weapons, Nato would attack.

According to UN sources, Mr Milosevic recognised that although a pull-back by the Serbs would result in a tactical advantage for the Bosnian government, air strikes by Nato would carry much graver implications.

Air strikes would raise two questions — one on the local level, one on the international level. The former is quite simple: are the Serbs cowards who will cut and run at the first sign of more impressive firepower?

Gordana Knezevic, a journalist on the Bosnian news-

paper, *Oslobodjenje*, and herself a Serb, is convinced they will run. "Air strikes can only have a positive effect," she maintains, "as soon as the Chetniks around the hills get a taste of their own medicine, they will just flee."

But a Serb historian who has also stayed in Sarajevo and like Ms Knezevic supports Bosnia-Herzegovina, is of a different mind. "If the air strikes happen, the Serbs will go to war with Nato. In the First World War one and a half million Serbs died. But they never gave up and eventually they were victorious. They will pursue a policy of *odmazda* — revenge. And the first thing they will do is to level Sarajevo to the ground with missiles."

On the global stage, the key

question is how the Russians will react to air strikes. The Defence Minister, Pavel Grachev, and the liberal Foreign Minister, Andrei Kozyrev, have both expressed their opposition to a Nato attack. Again opinions are deeply divided on this issue.

In the Kremlin yesterday Boris Yeltsin spelt it out for John Major by observing: "Some people are trying to resolve the Bosnian question without the participation of Russia... We will not allow this." Mr Yeltsin has to bear in mind not only traditional Russian ties to Orthodox Serbia, but also the rise of Russian ultra-nationalists and pan-Slavists ready to capitalise on the issue. He will not have been mollified by Mr Major's "We very much want Russia to use its political influence toward a settlement".

One school of thought claims the Russians are like the Serbs — all bluff and no bottle. They will accept the theory goes, that the Serbs have only themselves to blame for the mess they are in and shrug their shoulders.

The second school of thought insists that punitive air strikes against the Serbs (which is what the Nato ultimatum promises) will lead at best to a breakdown in co-operation between the Americans and Russians at the UN Security Council and at worst to the Russians offering active help to the Serbs.

This is the crossroads at which Europe now stands. Either the Serbs will be intimidated into making concessions which may satisfy the demands of the Bosnian government. Or Russian and American relations will freeze again.

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# South African priest defies Church to stand as MP



Mkhathshwa prepared to take his case all the way to Rome

FROM INIGO GILMORE  
IN JOHANNESBURG

FATHER Smangaliso Mkhathshwa's inclusion in the African National Congress list of candidates for April's first multi-racial election to the new National Assembly has created a sensitive theological dispute over the role of the Church in South Africa's transition to democracy.

Fr Mkhathshwa, one of the country's best known clerics, is defying a Roman Catholic Church order to withdraw as a parliamentary candidate. The South African Catholic Bishops' Conference has ruled that, under canon law, priests, while free to take part in politics, cannot hold public office requiring the exercise of civil authority.

In the eighth-floor office of the Institute for Contextual Theology, of which he is general secretary, Fr Mkhathshwa, 55, disputes this. He says his position must be seen against the background of his long-standing political involvement.

Shortly after his ordination in 1965, Fr Mkhathshwa was assigned to a parish in

■ Despite being active in the anti-apartheid struggle since the 1970s, Father Mkhathshwa faces suspension over his determination to stand for the new National Assembly

which he came face to face with the "real trauma" of black poverty and homelessness and was deeply affected by what he saw. He says he was politicised over a period and became politically active with the emergence of the Black Consciousness movement in the 1970s.

In the 1980s he was a patron of the newly formed United Democratic Front (UDF). He helped to organise marches and protests and was an outspoken critic of the apartheid regime. He paid dearly for his high profile — he spent seven years under house arrest; was imprisoned five times, once for nearly a year; was tortured several times and had his church raided, desecrated and bombed.

When the ANC was "unbanned", he joined it. "Primarily we were fighting to bring about the end of apartheid in order

to establish a non-racial democracy," he said. "It was now a matter of finding the best vehicle to do this and I, like many others in the UDF, turned to the ANC, which was the oldest resistance organisation in Africa. Some of the founder members of the ANC were members of the clergy and they had good leadership with a clear vision."

From his point of view the "struggle" is not over because the Government of National Unity to be formed after the April election will be merely a part of the process of transition which has to be legitimised by a broad spectrum of leadership, including the Church. He says he has a central role to play in the transitional process and this work is an extension of his ministry.

He feels betrayed by the bishops' conference, in which he previously worked for 18 years (nine as general secretary) and which, until now, has always supported his political role. The bishops, he says, have an inadequate understanding of the social context of parliamentary candidature.

"We have a situation where the Church has been actively involved in the struggle against apartheid and now they are saying, in so many words, we cannot continue any more and you must go back to doing your real job," he said. "That is like saying by opposing apartheid we were doing the wrong thing. It is a narrow and tendentious interpretation and it is contradictory."

Fr Mkhathshwa points out that the same canon law that condemns him also makes room for exceptions. The bishops' conference, however, takes the view that circumstances in the country do not warrant making an exception from church law in his case and that other people are capable of carrying out the tasks of public office. Furthermore, the bishops say, if he does not obey their

strictures he faces suspension from his work as a parish priest.

Fr Mkhathshwa says he is prepared to be suspended if that is what it takes to become an ANC MP, but he would accept this outcome "very reluctantly". While he appreciates that he could not fulfil both roles full-time, he is seeking a compromise whereby he could retain the right to work in his parish when the opportunity arose. If that is not granted by the bishops, he will appeal directly to Rome.

"I am responding to a call from hundreds and thousands of people who have asked me to play a role in the new South Africa," he said. "It is not the only way to help the people and serve God, but at the moment it is the best one. You dare not ignore such a call."

□ Durban: A mother of four was killed when black gunmen opened fire on revellers at a Valentine's Day dance in the northern Natal town of Newcastle on Monday night. (Reuters)

R.W. Johnson, page 14

## US sidelines Aristide with new policy on Haiti

■ The ousted President strongly opposes the latest US proposals to restore democracy. The radical leader risks being bypassed indefinitely unless he compromises

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

RELATIONS between the Clinton Administration and Haiti's ousted President, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, have plummeted after the unveiling of new American plans to restore democracy to the military-ruled Caribbean state.

The proposals, which have been worked out by US diplomats and a group of Haitian politicians, do not set a deadline for Mr Aristide's return and consequently have met an icy response from the radical former priest, who instead is demanding tougher United Nations sanctions against the military regime.

Mr Aristide has "major reservations" about the plans, according to Michael Barnes, a senior adviser. He declared: "The Clinton Administration is coming to us and saying, 'If you do A, B, C, and D, maybe the military will decide to be Jeffersonian Democrats.'"

The Haiti Information Bureau, a hardline pro-Aristide exile group based in Florida, has voiced increasing disgust with American policy on Haiti, accusing the White House of "cynicism and hypocrisy".

Mr Aristide has also publicly expressed his frustration with America's immigration policy on Haitian boat people intercepted by the US Coast Guard. Last week, he called the policy a "floating Berlin Wall" and threatened to end a 1981 agreement with Washington that allows the Americans to send back refugees to Haiti.

The new democracy proposals were drawn up over the past few days in Washington where officials from the State Department held intense talks with a broad range of Haitian politicians, including Mr Aristide, and diplomats from France, Canada and Venezuela. The plans revive the July 1993 Governors Island accord that was mediated by the United Nations.

That agreement called on Haitian military leaders to step down before existing international economic sanctions could be lifted, and insisted on Mr Aristide's return by October 12. When the deadline passed, diplomats watched helplessly as the military dug in to resist an oil and weapons embargo.

The American plans stick to the same formula but do not set a date for Mr Aristide's return. It is clear that the Clinton Administration is considering other options and US officials no longer talk of Mr Aristide's restoration as the only solution to the Haitian political crisis.

The main focus now appears to be finding a way to end the embargo, which all observers agree is crippling an already impoverished country. The first task is the creation of a government of national consensus in Mr Aristide's absence. Next, a prime minister must be appointed, a post which has been vacant for nearly two months since the resignation of Robert Malval in December.

Months have passed since the last diplomatic effort led by the UN was torpedoed by the military last October. Time is running out for Mr Aristide, and some of his moderate supporters say he must be more ready to compromise or risk losing any chance of returning to power.

It is now three years since he was inaugurated as Haiti's first democratic President. He was removed in a bloody military coup seven months later.



A Rio carnival dancer wearing a costume symbolising Margaret Mee, the British botanist, below, who spent her life painting Amazon wildlife

## Samba dancers honour British artist who fought for rainforest

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ONE OF the largest samba schools in Brazil was preparing to pay tribute last night to Margaret Mee, the British botanical artist who dedicated her life to painting the wildlife of the Amazon forest, during the Rio de Janeiro carnival parade.

Five thousand members of the Beija-Flor de Nilopolis school were to dance to the rhythm of *Margaret Mee, The Lady of the Bromelias*, a song composed for the occasion. The revellers dressed in feather and sequin costumes reminiscent of the delicate orchid water colours for which Mee became famous. She lived and worked deep in the interior, and was among the first to warn the world of the

Amazon area's destruction by colonisers and timber merchants. She was accustomed to confronting gold prospectors and loggers who colonised large tracts of rainforest, threatening the extinction of rare species. She died in a car crash in Leicestershire in November 1988, aged 79. Her last Brazilian plant-hunting expedition in 1988 was in pursuit of the moonflower, a rare night-flowering cactus that grows along the Rio Negro and flowers for only one day a year.

She earned international renown with a book of paintings, *Flowers of the Brazilian Forests*, in 1968. Her house became a place of pilgrimage for botanists and conservationists.



## Phone skirmish heralds US-Japan trade war

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE Clinton Administration fired the first shot last night in a confrontation with Japan that threatens to become a trade war between the world's two biggest economies.

Mickey Kantor, the US Trade Representative, announced that Japan had violated a 1989 agreement giving Motorola, the US cellular telephone company, access to the Tokyo market. The announcement triggered a process that will lead to punitive tariffs against selected Japanese imports within two or three months.

It was a coincidence that the deadline for the Motorola decision came only five days

after the collapse of far broader trade talks between the US and Japan, but the Administration seized the chance to display its determination to prise open Japanese markets. In a further demonstration of

US imports, sets a timetable for negotiating their removal, and mandates retaliation if those negotiations fail. Congressional Democrats passed the Super 301 legislation in 1988 to force Republican trade

panies and reclassifying Japanese minivans as trucks instead of cars. That would increase tariffs tenfold on those vehicles but also cripple Land Rover's North American operation because Range Rovers would be included in the new definition.

The US could also talk up the yen as a way of reducing Japan's \$60 billion (£40 billion) trade surplus, and the mere possibility of that is already driving down both the dollar and the Japanese stock market. "There's no more status quo," Mr Kantor said.

The tough new US stance comes after last Friday's collapse of eight-month negotia-

tions to establish a framework for measurable progress towards opening up Japan's car, insurance, telecommunications and medical equipment markets, but it is a high-risk strategy. Morihiro Hosokawa, the Japanese Prime Minister, returned from Washington as something of a hero on Sunday for standing up to American, and an increasingly nationalistic Japan, could choose to retaliate in kind against US sanctions, a retaliation that could swiftly deteriorate into a highly destructive tit-for-tat trade war.

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Tokyo's treatment of Motorola has riled Washington

his resolve. President Clinton is expected to sign an order soon reviving a tough trade provision, known as Super 301, which Japan hates. This identifies individual countries that have erected barriers to

negotiators to be more confrontational; it lapsed in 1990. The Administration is also considering other measures against Japan, including anti-trust court cases against US subsidiaries of Japanese com-

## New York gets a kick out of fetish for shoes

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK



Maples installed a video camera in flat when shoes began to go missing

THE glitzy arena inhabited by the Trumps of Manhattan and the dark world of foot fetishism have come together in a New York courtroom where Chuck Jones, former publicist to Maria Maples, is on trial charged with stealing 65 pairs of shoes from his employer and falling in love with them.

The case, coming so soon after millionaire Donald Trump's wedding to the model and actress known as the Georgia Peach, has held New Yorkers enthralled for two weeks, amid mounting evidence of pump-puffery by Mr Jones. He admitted on Monday, during cross-examination by the state prosecutor, that he had a "physical, psychological, sexual relationship with Maria Maples's shoes".

Some members of the jury broke into hoots of laughter as Mr Jones insisted: "It is not the overriding force in my life." Even the judge has found it hard to keep a straight face, and at least one member of the press has had to be removed from the courtroom in hysterics.

"If anybody had a fetish for shoes, it's Maria," Mr Jones continued in his testimony.

"She had a fetish for Charles Jourdan shoes. All her shoes were Charles Jourdan."

Mr Jones faces a minimum of 18 months in prison if convicted of burglary, possession of stolen property and illegal possession of firearms. Kevin Hynes, prosecuting, cornered the claim by Mr Jones, a former marine, that he had been manhandled and dragged down the street by an outraged Ms Maples, her mother and a security guard after his alleged heist was uncovered. "I've seen Maria Maples in action," Mr Jones said. "She could take Donald Trump down."

Mr Hynes accused Mr Jones of forging a letter from Ms Maples giving him permission, as her publicist and assistant, to handle her shoes. "Hi, Chuck. Here's some especially great clothes and shoes, sexy and casual," read one of the notes, which handwriting experts testified were bogus.

A posse of Mr Trump's security guards and New York police broke into Mr Jones's office in search of the missing shoes on July 15, 1992, after the publicist was captured on a video

camera wandering through Ms Maples's flat. Ms Maples installed the camera after she noticed that her footwear had started to disappear.

Perhaps more extraordinary than the fact that anyone should, in Mr Jones's words, be "really very interested in seeing the imprint of the foot inside" Ms Maples's shoes, is the fact that Mr and Mrs Trump, who have made an art out of inviting scrutiny of their every move, should object when one of their employees decides to rifle through their drawers on his own. Their Christmas nuptials were covered by no less than 195 news organisations. *Vanity Fair* this month published an extensive profile of the couple which provided a new insight into why "The Don" finally agreed to marry Ms Maples. "It was essential to the success of this casino gambling ventures that he remove the moral stigma of being viewed as an unfaithful husband and the father of an illegitimate child," the magazine reported. Mr Trump and Ms Maples had a baby daughter last autumn.

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Sister Wendy's comment on Mabuse's *Deianeira* is apposite: "Although she has a face of great sweetness, she does not look like one of the world's great intellects"

## Sister act goes on tour

How does a shaven-headed nun who lives in a caravan become a television star? Rachel Kelly on the most watched art critic since Kenneth Clark

Never have I known waiters so angelic. Never have I known service better. Dishes sped to our table. Wine flowed into our glasses. Nothing was too much trouble — and at Orso in Covent Garden, too, not known for its saintly staff.

And all because I was lunching with Sister Wendy Beckett. To her millions of fans (nearly three million watched her first television series, *Sister Wendy's Odyssey*, though she jokes that she is only known about in Kensington) this nun-cum-art-critic is a national treasure, a jewel, a gem, a joy. In her well-darned black-and-white habit, with her wide smile and buck teeth, she is unmistakable.

Her gift to the nation is to talk of art with infectious enthusiasm. This she did in the autumn, when she toured art collections in Liverpool, Cambridge, Oxford, Wilton House near Salisbury, Birmingham and Edinburgh. In each ten-minute slot, she talked straight to camera of the works she loved and had only previously seen in reproduction.

Visually, the series worked. Glorious art was juxtaposed with the geometry of a nun in black and white. The response to what Sister Wendy actually said was more mixed. Some

damned her views as risible. Most saw her as the best talking head on art since Lord Clark.

Nobody, however, could dispute that she provides a jargon-free service for those who feel inert in front of art. And nobody could dispute her fluency and affinity with the camera. Such was her natural media-friendliness that she became known by her BBC crew as "One-take Wendy".

She is back with a new series, this time visiting ten European cities. Those who missed her first time round can watch her on BBC2 from

March 7, retracing the route of 18th-century travellers and visiting the galleries of Madrid, Florence, Venice, Rome, Paris, Amsterdam, Berlin, St Petersburg, Antwerp and Vienna. Once again she marvels at the artists, and once again we will marvel at her.

Nuns are not supposed to be like this. Here she is talking of bodily functions; there she is effusing on the joy of sex or describing the public hair of a nude, by Stanley Spencer of his mistress, as "lovely and fluffy".

Her spirituality is undoubted. She is a hermit and virgin

who has lived for 20 years in a caravan in the bosky grounds of a Carmelite monastery in Quindenham, Norfolk. Ever since she was a child, she wished to be a nun. Born in 1930 in Johannesburg, the oldest of three children of a bank worker, she was schooled in South Africa until she left for England at 16 to become a novitiate.

Two years later, she went to St Anne's College, Oxford, lodging in a convent. Other undergraduates found her intimidating and she found herself going to tutorials alone. She got a congratulatory first in English, the highest honour the university can bestow on an undergraduate. At first she didn't realise why all the dons were clapping. One, seeing her bemusement, turned round her score-card to reveal rows of straight alphas. She returned to South Africa to teach with the Notre Dame order, but yearned for a prayer-led life. Obedience to her vows forbade her from switching. It was only when she fell ill that Rome agreed to her request. In 1970, she returned to England for a life of contemplation.

Her hair is shaved because it is easier to wash in a caravan without a proper bath. Her usual day begins at 6 I don't like the TV. I'd prefer a day of prayer in my caravan 9

3am and includes seven hours of silent prayer. She has no radio or television, but a monthly delivery of art magazines from the county library. Each morning her food for the day is delivered in a bowl — when she is not lunching at Orso.

Her relationship with the cameras began after a television executive heard her enthuse about art in a London gallery with her friend and fellow Catholic, the cookery writer and benefactor to her fellow religious, Delia Smith. Chatshows, books, articles and TV series followed. Her earnings are given to her church, but she dislikes her media persona.

Of course, it is very nice having lunch with you and eating this delicious food," she says as she tucks into mozzarella and tomato salad, steak with black pepper, and coffee and walnut cake washed down with a little white wine. "But given the choice, I would prefer a day of prayer in my caravan. Darling, I don't like doing any of it — the books and the TV. I don't know which is the least objectionable. I've asked the BBC repeatedly if they could just use my voice or find somebody else, but until somebody else comes along... Wouldn't you like to do it?" she asks, touching my arm.

Can rhythm really beat the blues?

## Of poetry and Prozac

MY HUSBAND the farmer, beset by damp heaving sheep, is prone to stomp around the yard muttering "Through the night of dark and sorrow, onward goes the Christian Band. Singing songs of exultation, Marching to the Promised Land". The lugubrious tone in which he does it belies the beneficial effect on him. When things agricultural, marital and financial get really bad he prescribes himself a stronger dose: "Oft in sadness, oft in woe, Onward, Christian, onward go!" It has the advantage of preventing him saying anything else he might regret.

But now we find that all the time he has been in the vanguard of medical thought. At Bristol University they have proved the therapeutic value of poetry. "Doctors have read poems at night to calm agitated patients," Dr Robin Philipp says. The chairman of the BMA, Alexander Macara, endorses the idea. "I would have thought poetry is infinitely superior to any tablets, just like music," he says sweepingly. The treatment — Wordsworth, Browning, and Shelley being mentioned as particularly good — is, they say, effective on the 6 per cent of patients who are depressed, and who currently gulp down £81 million of drugs a year.

In a time when even premature babies are economised out of getting life-saving lung surfactant drugs, I cannot see the NHS being slow to take this one up. Prozac, the favourite crutch for the seriously depressed, costs a quid per head per day; any initiative to replace it with out-of-copyright iambs will be set with both hands. We already have the technology. Just graft a computerized Golden Treasury onto the surgery database, do a bit of rough matching by age, sex, and literacy, and you have a new use for those screens into which GPs peer, as if into a crystal ball, before informing you that you have a virus. They can punch a few keys, squint, and say "Ah-hah — now just lean back for me — right. She dwelt among the untrodden ways/Beside the springs of Dove..."

What am I saying? The practice nurse could surely administer the treatment far more cheaply and, given a large-print copy and a

stand, could check your breasts for lumps at the same time. "Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp. Or what's a heaven for?" exclaims nurse cheerfully. "Now turn over — hum — have you been taking your Browning regularly?"

All right, I mock. Of course great poetry — and indeed light verse — can reach deeper than drugs. When your own head aches, a drowsy numbness pains the sense, and you are, frankly, half in love with easeful Death it is more than therapeutic to know that Keats felt the same way, and said it so well. I have no hesitation in recommending Shakespeare for mood-swings, an intravenous shot of Kipling for self-pity and a homeopathic snort of Coleridge when walling for one's demon lover.

But I am worried about the economy drive, and the rising tide of puritanism about, in particular, the antidepressant Prozac. In the US, writers have put about the idea that the drug is not only a crutch for the clinically depressed, but can be a "cosmetic" miracle, turning ordinary sly needs into superconfident winners. This brings on an anti-drug backlash and a flood of articles, depressing to the depressive, which ask excitably "Are we meddling with the Soul?"

Depressed people feel guilty enough without the suggestion that all they ought to need is a shot of Wordsworth and an hour with Classic FM. I HAPPEN to know, I have taken Prozac for a year, only trying it after friends, poetry, music, single malt, and therapy failed to do the trick. The US "cosmetic" theory only surfaced after I started, and although I have been waiting with some eagerness for the bit where I turn into a cross between Madonna and Richard Branson, it seems not to have happened. The only effect — and a lot of other closet takers will be silently agreeing with me here — is that the 5-HT serotonin reuptake inhibitor kicks off something in the brain which makes it once more possible to get your arm as far as the poetry bookshelf; to notice the sunset, and hear the music again.

Without it, the approach of a receding GP could tip you right over the edge.



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Hats have a language of their own in Russia — particularly for visiting PMs, says Michael Binyon

# Messages from heads of state



Headlining: famous visitors in hats, from left, Harold Macmillan, Margaret Thatcher, Harold Wilson

One of the most delicate questions facing any British Prime Minister planning a visit to Moscow in winter is what to wear on his head. To go native, as John Major and Douglas Hurd have done, and don an ordinary fur *shapka* with ear-flaps may reassure Russians that the two visiting statesmen are recognisable fellow commuters on the Moscow Metro; but to the television viewers back home they look like embarrassed tourists in Russian fancy dress.

With temperatures plunging to minus 20 or more, the question is of more than sartorial interest. A hat is not a decoration but a necessity, especially if there are guards of honour to be inspected, wreaths to be laid and walkabouts to be staged. The problem for British ministers is that hats, for men as well as women, have long ceased to be a normal article of clothing in Britain. Nowadays they make a statement about a man's class, taste, style and social pretensions. Wearing a Russian fur hat, even in snowy weather, is faintly ridiculous, an ostentatious display of one's foreign travels.

Wearing a hat in Russia is a trickier matter, and has ideological connotations. For 70 years, aping

the Russians and donning fur implied approval of Communism. Wearing a bowler or a trilby looked stuffy at home and reinforced every Russian's stereotype of a foreign capitalist. Those with real panache went to Moscow dressed in the clothes of pre-revolutionary Russia. No one will ever forget Harold Macmillan's superb white fur hat — a cut above anything seen in Russia in the dowdy 1950s, and all the more startling at home.

Mr Macmillan's successors did not attempt to replicate the coup. Harold Wilson wore a brown, proletarian, straight-sided fur, which sat awkwardly atop his head but chimed in well with the style favoured by Alexei Kosygin, then Prime Minister, who wore an Astrakhan *pirazhok* — literally, a little pudding on his shaven head. Margaret Thatcher had an exuberant creation of wild-flowing expensive fur — something that all Russian women aspired to and which may explain their continuing fascination with her looks and personality. Mr Major, by contrast, has chosen the common *ushanka* — the fur hat with ear-flaps which are normally tied back that can be found in most tourist shops.

As the rouble plunges in value

and Russians sell off the family silver to buy bread, good furs are almost all exported. Many young people have taken to wearing ski-hats, preferably emblazoned with a Western sports brand-name. It is cheaper, less likely to be stolen, and gives a handy impression of having come from the slopes of Zermatt. Those thoroughly Westernised young men now hanging around the smart shops of Moscow are usually bareheaded: something unthinkable a generation ago.

Until the overthrow of Communism, tradition held sway. From his earliest days, a Russian learnt that he must never venture outside in winter without a hat. Foreigners who failed to cover their children's heads used to be subjected to loud abuse by busybody *babushki* on the street, and the occasional long-haired hippy who made his bare-headed protest against conformity on the streets in Brezhnev's Russia attracted disapproving stares; but in these troubled times anything goes.

Country people and fishermen in Russia still wear simple leather *ushankas* with fur linings. The Russian armed forces have their own hierarchy in headgear. The



Headlining: the Prime Minister, John Major, in Moscow

ordinary soldier wears a felt *ushanka* with steel-blue ear-flaps. Officers above the rank of colonel are entitled to a *papakha*, a hat looking rather like a bishop's mitre in grey Astrakhan. The police and militia have grey *ushankas*, and sailors and airmen have more Western-style flat hats.

Spring still brings out trillies in the older generation. Nikita Khrushchev was fond of a trilby, as was President Gorbachev. Some elderly people take to straw boaters. Gum, the massive Moscow store, now sells fashionable women's hats. Since the fall of Communism, some of the old styles have made a comeback. Cossack hats are worn with pride, but Lenin-style cloth caps are out of fashion.

Political trends have kept the milliners busy. Such is the crime wave on Moscow's streets that hats

can be bought lined with armour — steel cages to keep off the gangsters' bullets. Visiting American statesmen never make concessions: they appear as bare-headed as all the correspondents reporting from the frozen winter landscape. Mr Yeltsin, perhaps out of flattery to his visitors from Washington, or to show that a true Siberian does not feel the cold, has also taken to appearing in public without a hat, and sometimes even without a coat. Such folly has set many a *babushka's* tongue clucking. Mr Major and Mr Hurd are taking no such chances with the Siberian winter. Even so, fur sits ill on British heads. The sight of the Prime Minister at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, his *ushanka* brushing the top of his glasses, may be reassuring to Russians; back home it can only provoke a smirk.

## The vicar's mite

Why should the clergy have to suffer a headline existence, asks Ruth Gledhill

VICARS and their families who are already struggling against the miseries of genteel poverty on stipends of just £12,800 a year now contemplate the prospect of falling another notch down the social scale in the wake of the Church's latest financial disaster.

A typically hard-pressed clergyman, the Rev Martin Clark, vicar of St Anne's, Wandsworth, in southwest London, told *The Times* yesterday about his parsimonious existence. He lives on a fraction of the salary of his more worldly contemporaries and his greatest extravagance is a brief camping holiday in France.

Mr Clark, 47, who earns £13,400 (more than many of his fellow clerics), said: "Perhaps all this will make people understand that if they do not pay, they will not have a vicar."

Mr Clark, ordained a deacon in 1971, earned just £80 a month in his first job as a curate at the Elephant and Castle, in southeast London. His wife Eve, a development officer with Mencap, started work when their youngest child, Paul, was seven and her salary quickly outpaced his. She is now on £20,000, and the couple regard his stipend as "pocket money".

For a middle-class couple with educated tastes theirs has been an adult life of scrimping and making-do. His faith has left them without the comforts that a clergymen would once have expected: the same lifestyle as the solicitor, doctor or even the local school teacher.

Their struggles have intensified lately because their daughter Lucy, 20, has started a college course on a grant of £7 a term, leaving them with £300 a month to find simply to enable her to live and pay a rent.

Mr Clark is helped with his telephone bill and car mileage but, unlike some parishes, his church makes no contribution to the heating and lighting bills at his modern vicarage. His children

were educated at state schools and, like many vicarage children, clothed for years in second-hand garments. He and his wife sleep on a wrought-iron bedstead bought second-hand for £13.

"We survive quite happily with careful budgeting," he said. "We do take holidays abroad but we camp. A night in a grotty French hotel is something of a luxury."

But he added: "I do not give a damn about keeping up appearances. We are a parish with a very wide social spectrum, from people who are poor to the lower reaches of the aristocracy and people on enormous City salaries, young couples with families who can afford to fly off to the Bahamas for a week when they choose. Inevitably, I am middle-class and educated, but not being affluent means I can identify with those who are in a similar situation."

He added: "I have always seen my stipend as a living allowance, something to enable me to keep body and soul together. It is not a salary, a wage, a financial reward."

"We survive by keeping meticulous accounts. But things were much more extreme before my wife went back to work. We lived off home-grown vegetables, and the children gave us home-made Christmas cards because it was too expensive to buy them. I cannot claim we live in dire poverty, but we do live modestly and we have to be very careful."

HIS 140-strong congregation at St Anne's, a listed Georgian building which seats about 350, are asked to give £17,000 a year in "quota" to the Southwark diocese, less than £2.50 a week, to help pay clergy salaries.

Mr Clark said: "It was only 100 years ago that they started passing the collection plate. People still cannot understand why there is not a flock of curates at St Anne's, as there was 20 years ago. It all raises the question of how much people value their vicar."



Warning — the Rev Martin Clark outside St Anne's, Wandsworth

## Getting away with rape

More than three-quarters of rapists are good-looking, smartly dressed and charming, according to a new survey of rape victims conducted by Channel 4's *Dispatches* and the University of North London. The survey found that one in ten rapists is an articulate, well-educated professional. A doctor, university lecturer, teacher and even a senior police officer were among the assailants described by the hundred women who contributed to the survey.

Yet these men remain hidden from view and unchallenged by the legal system. In a society in which an estimated nine in ten rapes go unreported, a middle-class man can rest especially easy. The survey discovered that not one of the professional assailants felt the long arm of the law.

Many of the women who completed a lengthy questionnaire had never told anyone of the assault they endured. Almost 60 per cent had not reported the crime to the police.

Six out of seven women were raped by men they knew. Of these, more than half were friends, colleagues, neighbours, casual acquaintances — men with whom they had never had consensual sex.

A staggering one in five women lost their virginity as a result of the rape, nearly a quarter were bugged and one in 12 became pregnant or caught a sexually transmitted disease. One rapist urinated on his victim. Another insisted she pose for pornographic photographs before and during the assault. Both assailants were acquaintances.

Men approached their victims in a variety of situations but most commonly in the social setting of a pub, club or party. Twenty per cent of assailants raped their victims within 24 hours of meeting

Lynn Ferguson and Jacqui Webster report on how middle-class rapists are escaping conviction

them. Many employed a "conning" strategy, encouraging the woman into a false sense of security. One woman was asked for a lift home by a man she had chatted to briefly at a party. When she dropped him off, he persuaded her into his home saying, "Come on, it's Christmas. Have a drink. I won't jump on you." Within minutes of entering his flat, the woman was assaulted.

Like this woman, most victims were not raped where

Rapes by acquaintances were every bit as violent as those perpetrated by strangers. If anything, the victims were more likely to suffer serious injuries. One in five was beaten or punched, compared with fewer than one in ten victims of strangers, and more than a quarter were choked or strangled.

If the rapist encountered resistance, the most common response was to increase the level of violence. Perhaps most disturbing was the additional enjoyment many

times during the attack; many even laughed and joked.

More than a third of rapists told the woman not to tell the police. Most acquaintance rapists threatened to kill or harm the woman if she did. Of those who didn't report the assault, 95 per cent were raped by acquaintances. One professional woman indignantly remarked that she could not bear the thought of her daughter finding out and being distressed — she was sitting her A levels. But most did not report because they thought they would not be believed. They were probably right. In the survey the conviction rate for men who raped strangers was 100 per cent; for acquaintances, it was only 36 per cent.

Rapists who know their victims use this fact when they construct their defences. One man stood trial four times in the same month at the same court for remarkably similar offences. Each jury was unaware of the other cases and he was acquitted three times. Another, who had secured the compliance of his terrified victim by threatening to rape her in

front of her children if she resisted, was later acquitted in court. This woman had no physical injuries and her assailant was a casual acquaintance. The same man has been reported for rape by seven different women. He has never been convicted.

The vast majority of rapes in the survey were calculated, brutal attacks on trapped and terrified women. There was no prior "date", no misconstruing of signals. But in court the men claimed the women had consented to sex and cried rape afterwards. In two out of three cases, the jury believed the men.

Lynn Ferguson is producer and Jacqui Webster assistant producer of the specially extended Channel 4 *Dispatches* programme to be screened tonight at 9pm.

### WOMEN AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE SURVEY

If you should find any of the questions too distressing, don't worry. Please skip these and move on to the next. Do please complete the questionnaire, however, as every answer is useful and may help other women. (It is a matter of your security as well as your own.) Please do not fill in or return this.)

Please tick here if you are filling this in for someone else.

Woman's physical or learning difficulty.

SECTION ONE: PAST EXPERIENCE OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Please tick the answers that apply.

1.1 How old are you?

1.2 How old was your assailant?

1.3 How many times have you been sexually assaulted?

1.4 How many times have you been sexually assaulted in the last 12 months?

1.5 How many times have you been sexually assaulted in the last 6 months?

1.6 How many times have you been sexually assaulted in the last 3 months?

1.7 How many times have you been sexually assaulted in the last 12 months?

1.8 How many times have you been sexually assaulted in the last 6 months?

1.9 How many times have you been sexually assaulted in the last 3 months?

1.10 How many times have you been sexually assaulted in the last 12 months?

1.11 How many times have you been sexually assaulted in the last 6 months?

1.12 How many times have you been sexually assaulted in the last 3 months?

1.13 How many times have you been sexually assaulted in the last 12 months?

1.14 How many times have you been sexually assaulted in the last 6 months?

1.15 How many times have you been sexually assaulted in the last 3 months?

### OFFICE USE ONLY

Card 1

(1-4)

(SERIAL)

(5) Trial

(6) Record

(7) Blank

(8)

(9-10)

(11-12)

Many of the victims surveyed had told no one about their ordeal before

they first encountered the man. Many went unsuspectingly to a secure place where the rapist was unlikely to be disturbed. Almost 60 per cent of rapes took place in either the woman's or man's home. A further 11 per cent of women were assaulted in the rapist's car.

Three in five women reported a sudden "Je-kill and Hyde" mood change in their assailant immediately before the attack. One woman was enjoying a pleasant evening with a "gentleman" colleague, dining and listening to classical music. But when she refused his sexual advances, he beat her until she was unconscious. Coming round, she was horrified to find he was raping her.

men derived from the woman's resistance.

It is wrong, however, to judge the seriousness of a rape only by the injuries sustained. Although seven in ten rapists overall used physical violence to subdue their victims, threats were also employed to deadly effect. Almost 30 per cent threatened to kill the woman. Sixteen per cent threatened the use of a weapon, including scissors and a knife.

During the assault, women were often ordered to tell the man how much they were enjoying it. Some were told to compliment him on his performance. Others were told to beg for it, moan, talk dirty or tell her attacker that they loved him. Forty per cent of rapists insulted and ridiculed their vic-

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## Alan Coren



**Browsing through a book need never again be so physically exhausting**

As I look for the exact size of Hoboken? Unable to sketch a spider's genitals? Never dawned on you that Robert Maillart might just be the father of Swiss concrete? Baffled as to why the Aral Sea is shrinking? Embarrassed when the cocktail chit-chat turns to feedback loops or ophi-leides? Well, here's a handy tip for the harassed autodidact: why not buy a sturdy 4ft length of common pine, a handsome MDF oblong offcut slyly veneered in bogus afrormosa, a 2ft length of beaded ash lipping, an iron thing the univertine use only for sticking a Christmas tree in, and build yourself a lectern to grace any snug or den?

Our story begins on the morning of December 25, when the thing for sticking a Christmas tree in still had only a Christmas tree stuck in it, beside which lay, or rather towered, a tinselled carton with my name on it. This I carried upstairs — gratified that it weighed little more than the average hatchback, if slightly concerned that the country's surgeons might be too busy sectioning poultry to turn out just to suture a hernia — and excitedly unwrapped.

Inside was *The Columbia Encyclopaedia*, the biggest book in the world: it contains seven million words, and, says its fly-leaf, was called by John Updike "an incomparable one-volume omnificatorium", probably when describing it to his own people. A present from my wife who, though she had somehow guessed that among its million facts might well lurk a few with which I wasn't already familiar, did not herself know one with which I was, viz. that I didn't have a shelf large enough to accommodate *Columbia*, and even if I did, I should not be able to lug it thence to my desk without having a bit of a tie-down afterwards, and even if I did that, I should not be able to put it on my desk without taking everything else off it first. Thus, the boon she had so thoughtfully believed was offering a deadlined hack stuck for the population of Lusk or the gestation period of the weasel, seemed insurmountably offset by the time and effort needed to look such things up. It would be simpler to phone Lusk, or (there must be one) Weaselworld.

It was not until two days later that the solution hit me. I would buy a lectern. Nothing fancy, no brass eagles, no ormolu acanthus, just an honest wooden stand with a sturdy angled shelf on which my encyclopaedia could rest, open, on the constant *qui vive* should I need urgently to know anything from the cubic capacity of Nuvolari's helmet to the dietary quirks of the Vorticists.

So, for a fortnight, I approached every imaginable outlet from conference convenors to suppliers of sundries to the sacerdotal trade, without a nibble, save for a Kensington antiquier's offer of a nice 18th-century example which, thanks to the recession, he might be prepared to let me wrest from his grasp for only two grand. It was then that I looked again at the sketch I had roughed out for faxing to putative lectern-mongers, and realised that if I ran round to Cricklewood Timber with it, they might be able to provide the wherewithal for me to knock one up myself. So they lashed a length of 4 x 4 into a smooth pine pole at only £41.50, threw in the offcut and beading, and sent me home to lip the shelf, screw it to the upright at a pre-cut 45-degree angle, coach-bolt the ensemble into the vacated iron tree-stand, and set it vertical.

Or, what's the word, off-vertical. Not by much; just enough to ensure that when the world's biggest book was put on it and opened, it continued, if you let go, to turn its own pages, with a gentle *flop-flop* sound.

So did I rage? Did I weep? In fact, first because after a bit, I saw that I had, quite fortuitously, invented a remarkable educational tool via which the process of investigating one thing invariably led to the learning of two things. For example, I should never have known of the shrinking of the Aral Sea had I not been reading about Andropov, turned away, and turned back to find that *Columbia* had flopped itself 31 pages on.

There could be big money in the Wonky Lectern. Because while it is one thing to have a big book which enables you to look up things you do not know, it is quite another to have a big book which enables you to look up things you did not know you did not know. Just think, if Updike had owned a screw-driver, he'd be a millionaire by now.

Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford, explains how a poorer Church can continue to preach

# Time to balance up the good books

The Church of England is faced with a major financial problem. Yet this needs to be put into perspective. The public myth is still that the Church is largely financed by historic endowments. This simply is not true. Dioceses have become steadily less dependent upon grants from the Church Commissioners as congregations have assumed a greater share of responsibility for financing their clergy. For example, in the diocese of Oxford, which has a budget of £11.1 million for 1994, we will receive £1.3 million from the Church Commissioners, a mere 12 per cent (although to be fair there are hidden subsidies in the form of episcopal costs, National Insurance and pension contributions). Overall the Commissioners contribute £63 million to stipends. But donations raise the substantial sum of £250 million. The big cuts predicted over the next few years are the culmination, albeit a drastic one, of a process.

In this diocese, we agreed some time ago that rather than be overwhelmed by forces beyond our control, we need to manage change. In short, we decided to plan on the basis that we would receive no money at all from the Church Commissioners by the end of 1997. Against a vision of ministry which involves all lay people, we have tried to predict the numbers of stipendiary clergy we will need, what this will cost and how we will raise the money to pay for them. In the short term, this means cutting every part of the budget. In the medium term, it means facing each deanery — and hence each parish — with a challenge and a series of choices. Roughly speaking, it will be necessary to find £20,000 per member of the stipendiary clergy.

Deaneries will have the choice of deploying the present number, or reducing the number of stipendiary clergy and finding alternative ways of exercising Christian ministry. Those other ways are already available. In this diocese, for example, we have already trained and deployed nearly 150 non-stipendiary ministers — barristers, farmers, doctors, teachers, nurses, scholars, secretaries, police and business people — who earn their living in the secular world, and who, after three years' vigorous training during the evening and at weekends, exercise a Christian priesthood at work in the community and in the parish.

In their own parishes. They have to work collaboratively with all other forms of Christian ministry in order that the total resources of Christian caring and communication can be deployed. All this, which is beginning to happen, will be accelerated by the present financial problems.

I am not one of the school that believes that it is good for us to suffer. I do not believe in a God who does nasty things to us in order that we might develop moral and spiritual qualities. Nevertheless, there is no doubt that the present crisis is a salutary one. We have been too dependent on historic endowments for too long. We are the only church in the world that does not pay realistically for its ongoing ministry.

People sometimes say to me, wide-eyed, "Do you know that the Mormons and the House Churches there?" I point out to them that tithing is a standard that has been publicly proclaimed by the Oxford diocesan synod — not simply as a way of raising cash, but because giving generously is a way of entering more fully into the liberation of Christ. This Christian generosity, together with new, creative forms of ministry exercised by every Christian, are just some of the good things which God is drawing out of our present predicament.

Richard Harries is the author of *Is There a Gospel for the Rich?*

# Liberalism's Pyrrhic victory

South Africa's liberals are a minority uncomfortably afraid that their success may lead to new repression, writes R.W. Johnson



Nelson Mandela has moved from prisoner to prime minister in waiting, but how free will ANC rule prove?

an election dominated by parties that have killed lots of people, minority voters and moderate blacks are looking for a muscular sheriff to look after them — and if he has a few notches on his gun, so much the better.

Liberalism is still essentially white, and its problems are apparent, too, among the intelligentsia. On one point the liberals are unanimous: however much they admire de Klerk, they cannot support the National Party, the party that inflicted apartheid on South Africa, and only a handful are willing to support Inkatha, which is widely condemned for appealing to tribalism and for its involvement in violence. (Oddly, the accusation of violence is equally levelled at the ANC, which is equally involved.) So the options are considerably narrowed. Many white intel-

lectuals — the most striking case is the Nobel laureate Nadine Gordimer — have joined the ANC because they see that as the logical extension of their years of struggle against apartheid. Others, including a number of wealthy businessmen, have taken the same step with an eye to preferment from a future ANC government.

But it is difficult for a liberal to feel truly at home in the ANC. Argument is currently raging about how many communists there are in the top 50 places on the ANC election list. Some analysts say it is as high as 27, but nobody doubts that the Communist Party, as the most cohesive and disciplined group within the ANC leadership, will continue to act as the main initiator of ANC policy. Voting for the ANC list also means supporting some

notably illiberal spirits, including Umkhonto officers accused of atrocities against their own men in the Angolan camps, radicals who openly call for other parties to be prevented from campaigning in the townships, and, of course, the inimitable Winnie Mandela.

There is no mistaking the hegemonic pretensions of the ANC: when the movement talks of "consulting civil society", it means consulting only ANC-aligned organisations. The liberals who have joined the ANC insist that it is a broad church, that the movement's faults are outnumbered by its virtues and that to place oneself outside it is to be isolated from the liberation mainstream. But for all that, such liberals frequently find themselves on the defensive.

A second school looks to the "tough liberalism" of Helen Suzman, who will

have no truck with the ANC while it is in alliance with the communists, and who is as vocal in condemning the antics of black radicals as she was in denouncing apartheid. Mrs Suzman occupies a special, protected status, but in general such a stance is not easy to sustain: anyone who is critical of the ANC is immediately suspected of supporting Inkatha. The writer Rian Malan belongs in this tough liberal group. He published a particularly tough-minded critique of the Boipatong tragedy, attacking the ANC's claims of "third force" involvement.

Among writers, Breyten Breytenbach has the longest and most intimate involvement with the ANC, and is the most angrily critical of it, but his powerful (and often hilarious) anarchism finds targets in all directions. In the end he is a liberal too but he speaks dismissively of liberal hopes as "white pipedreams of decency". André Brink, for his part, hovers nervously on the fringes of the ANC, saying he'll vote for it but could never join it and is horrified by the illiberal spirits within it. Breytenbach lives mainly in self-imposed exile and Brink, who already spends half the year outside South Africa, wonders aloud about emigrating.

J. M. Coetzee, though clearly in the liberal camp, keeps his views famously to himself, although some years ago he had a furious and public disagreement with Nadine Gordimer after she had endorsed the cancellation of Salman Rushdie's visit to South Africa. Coetzee argued that the Congress of South African Writers must condemn the Muslim fundamentalists who had threatened Rushdie's life, even if they were part of "the progressive movement". In fact, the congress, to which Gordimer donated some of her Nobel Prize money, has evolved into an ANC-aligned body with apparent pretensions to become the South African version of the old Soviet Writers' Union.

One senses in all liberals a longing for South Africa to complete its transition to democracy, whatever the results, partly so that they can at last be free from the dire Manichaeanism of having to structure their lives around attitudes to apartheid.

But few believe that the fight for a liberal society is won. Polls show that more than a third of whites will be scared to criticise an ANC government, and there are deep liberal fears for the future of civil rights under the ANC. White liberals who take the future government to task will doubtless find themselves denounced as racists and, in contrast to the past, will receive little foreign sympathy. But liberalism in South Africa has been a hardy flower. The conditions have never really suited it, yet it has triumphed all the same. Even harder times may be ahead, but everything depends now on liberal black leaders such as Desmond Tutu, Oscar Dhlomo and Enos Mabuza for in the new South Africa there will be no future for any creed which remains mainly white.

## Put family first

THE "friends of Edwina" (as Tory gay-rights campaigners are fast becoming known) appear to have suffered a setback in their drive to oust Stephen Green, the "evangelical" chairman of the Conservative Family Campaign. It was Green who famously opined that it was the "forces of Satan" who wanted the age of consent for homosexuals lowered, a view which prompted a number of more liberal-minded Tories to make their excuses and resign.

Last week, the forces of reform sniffed revenge when it became clear that Green had secretly tabled his own resignation. But to their dismay his offer has been rejected by Tory Party deputy chairman Gerry Malone, one of the campaign's sponsors, and by the campaign president, Bill Walker, MP for Tayside North.

Jerry Hayes, the outspoken Tory member for Harlow whose resignation from the campaign prompted the departure of four other MPs does not agree — one bit. "Whether or not Stephen goes is now irrelevant. The whole organisation is cracked. Stephen writes letters saying he has been appointed by the Almighty. If air-miles were different for outrageous comments, he would be the first man on Mars."

Green, however, is unfazed. "Last week, the forces of reform sniffed revenge when it became clear that Green had secretly tabled his own resignation. But to their dismay his offer has been rejected by Tory Party deputy chairman Gerry Malone, one of the campaign's sponsors, and by the campaign president, Bill Walker, MP for Tayside North."

Walker reckons the row over whether Green and "religious fundamentalists" have "hijacked" the family campaign is over. "The issue is now behind us. Stephen and his team do a good job."

pists at the launch of the Commonwealth Library charity, Book Aid International. "The Palace told us it was the only evening he could do," says a spokesman.

### Ice house

NOT ONLY were the audience dressed up for the Royal Opera on Monday night, plenty of them had to wrap up too. Arctic temperatures outside the auditorium on opening night of *Cherubim* were little different from those inside.

As gentlemen gallantly draped scarves and jackets over their partners' goose-pimpled shoulders, ushers



## DIARY

admitted there had been a number of complaints. "Yes it was unusually chilly in there," says a spokesman. "It's because of the weather but we're not sure why there was quite such a draught."

### Sparkling day

SHE MAY have lost her personal assistant to Naim Attalah, but it turned out to be a very beautiful Valentine's Day for Alexandra Shulman, editor-in-chief of *Vogue*. She kicked off her evening at a party in London for the launch of Elizabeth Taylor's new range of perfumes, the Fragrant Jewel collection, where to her great surprise she won the raffle prize, a ruby and diamond pendant valued for insurance at £3,850.

Yesterday Shulman was still in a state of happy shock.

"I am so amazed at having won anything that I have not had time to think what I'll do with it. I'm just staring at it with delight."

Just before Christmas, Hartley Booth attended a meeting of the Arts Council, where he became enthusiastic about helping our artistic heritage. He promised to throw a party to raise funds and profile. Alas it did not happen, and in the wake of his liaison with occasional life model Emily Barr, perhaps it never will. Not everyone is disappointed. "We're in enough trouble already," says an artistic source.

### Versatile player

THE musical birthday bash of the year is planned for April when Sir Neville Marriner,

founder and director of the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields, will conduct his way into his seventies at the Royal Festival Hall.

Pianist Alfred Brendel and the American soprano Sylvia McNair have already signed up to perform, and Marriner's son Andrew, a clarinettist, will also play.

But Marriner regards the glorious prospect with trepidation. "I wanted to take the year off and just disappear until this was all over," he says. "It's nice that Andrew is playing, but I really wanted him to be a cricket player because he is rather good. It was against my better judgment that he became a professional musician."

Small wonder that the Government is determined to crack down on quangos. The new Civil Service Year Book for 1994 has just emerged, and it lists the Scott enquiry as a non-departmental public body. Or, to use the vernacular, a quango. Doubtless Messrs Clarke, Rifkind, Lilley and Heseltine will be tempted to use something a little stronger as they prepare for their grillings next week.



### More gems from the Waugh-chest

Selina Hastings, the author of an acclaimed biography of Nancy Mitford, is to revisit the life of Mitford's close friend and correspondent, Evelyn Waugh. Hastings (left) is putting the finishing touches to a biography which promises to shed more light on Waugh's turbulent private life.

"The book is going to be very personal. She is not going to write a literary critique of his work," says Penelope Hoare, editorial director at Sinclair-Stevenson.

But is there much more to be said about Waugh *père*, following son Auberon's hugely popular and revealing autobiography, *Will This Do?*

Bron, who is editor of *The Literary Review*, has known Hastings "for years" and says he liked the Mitford biography. "I found it moving and well-written," he says.

He agreed to be interviewed for the new book, and is braced for fresh revelations, though uncertain about their nature. "I don't know," he chuckles, "but I should think there will be plenty."





## THE COST OF FAITH

The Church needs urgent financial help from the laity

The decision of the Church Commissioners to halve their funding of clergy stipends in the next two years will be a shock to a structure already facing grave financial difficulties. Under present arrangements, the Commissioners, who manage the Church's £2.2 billion assets, pay 41 per cent of the £55 million stipendiary bill; by 1996, they intend to contribute only 20 per cent. There could be no clearer evidence of the need for fundamental reform of the Church's finances and management.

The immediate background to the crisis is the grossly incompetent performance of the commissioners themselves during the 1980s which cost the Church £800 million. Last year's investigation into the losses was highly critical of their reckless property speculations. Greater business acumen and a steady supply of private sector advice should ensure the Church a more stable return on its assets. But, as senior churchmen are now acknowledging, the funding problem facing them will not be solved by even the wisest asset management.

At the heart of the alarming gap between expenditure and revenue is a cultural flaw. The Church is the victim of its historic success during the high season of British imperial expansion. Today's laity have inherited the presumption that the Church can essentially support itself and that the survival of its mission may be taken for granted. Anglican parishioners can be generous in their response to specific needs — a new church roof or help with the vicar's travel expenses — but tend to regard such donations as pious munificence rather than essential subsidy.

Yet this sense of confidence has relatively shallow historic roots. The funding of the

medieval Church was far more pluralist, a combination of benefaction, ecclesiastical enterprise and good fortune. Many priests relied on the laity's good will and readiness to hire pews. If it is to regain financial stability, the Church must recapture this rich culture of lay involvement and support. Less than 20p a week from each of the 1.4 million worshippers on the Church's electoral roll could resolve the commissioners' immediate problem.

In the medium term, costs could be reduced by introducing a contributory element to clergy pensions or, in extremis, freezing salaries. But the Church must also reform its organisation and the manner in which it provides services. At present, the distribution of clergy and resources is far too centralised, still managed by the "Sheffield formula" which dictates their allocation across the 43 dioceses. There is also too much redistribution of wealth to churches which do not not justify the subsidy.

The best hope of the parochial structure is that churches be given greater control over their resources and the freedom to organise local strategies. There should be a systematic search for economies of scale: more team ministries and more intensive use of church buildings by different congregations. In future, not every village will necessarily have its own church and its own vicar; realisation of that prospect should spur communities of worshippers to take pre-emptive action now. The Church must discover a constructive middle way between the defeatism of the Templeman report on the future of the City's churches and the complacency that reigns elsewhere. But to do so, it must first renew its historic alliance with the laity.

## TRADE JAW NOT WAR

Washington and Tokyo must get back to the negotiating table

The failure of the American-Japanese summit to resolve bitter differences over trade marks a decisive change in the relationship between the world's two great economic powers. For two generations, Japan has attempted to cement the strategic alliance with its former occupiers by public courtesy, political deference and rhetorical restraint. The notorious book *The Japan that can say no*, an America-bashing tract that was mild compared to America's rampant Japan-bashing, caused almost as much outrage on publication four years ago at home as it did in America.

Now Japan has said no, and America is outraged. Insisting that Japan has violated a 1989 agreement giving Motorola, the US cellular telephone company, access to the Tokyo market, the Clinton administration has taken the first step to imposing punitive tariffs against Japanese imports. President Clinton is now preparing to reach for the blunderbuss Super 301 provision. With its stock market falling fast and the yen rising, Japan has warned of international financial turmoil. Instead of formulating joint strategies for recovery, the two countries are preparing for economic war.

The Americans insist their tough talk is still merely a warning, a chance for reassessment in Tokyo and a necessary deadline to concentrate negotiators' minds. They argue that 20 years of patient diplomacy have done little to open Japanese markets or reduce Japan's massive surplus, now running at nearly \$60 billion in bilateral trade and \$131 billion in trade with all other nations. The status quo cannot be maintained, argues Mickey Kantor, the sharp-tongued US Trade Representative. The Administration has given a warning that congressional patience will not last much longer, but promises to review its options and act with measured political restraint.

To call these announcements mistimed would be an understatement. The Clinton administration, not known for its diplomatic

finesse, has shown its clumsiness again. Lloyd Bentsen, the treasury secretary, arrived in Tokyo as Morohiro Hosokawa was preparing a humiliating volte-face over his ill-judged proposals for a new value added tax. Since then, he has been fighting for his political life, attempting to hold together a disparate coalition while struggling with a financial crisis, the implementation of hard-won political reform and the bitter opposition to his proposals to reshuffle the cabinet. Brisk decisions are hard to obtain even in the most tranquil times, given the Japanese insistence on consensus and cooperation between government and industry; in three weeks of unprecedented turmoil, it is naive to expect that any prime minister can resolve the deeply divisive issues that lie at the heart of Japan's trading policies. Washington appears to believe that the Japanese government is still the Liberal Democratic Party, and can be dealt with like monolithic communist regimes.

Despite his distractions, Mr Hosokawa gave a warning in Washington that was timely and should be heeded. Demanding specific improvements in trading practices in specific sectors comes very close to insisting on "managed trade". The Americans long ridiculed such practices at a time when Japan appeared happy to have its trade set by a framework of quotas and targets. Now that Japan has embraced the doctrine of free markets, it would be an irony if America were to move so clearly against the spirit of the Gatt trade agreement.

The greater danger is that all this will spill over into global politics. Without the Soviet threat to hold the two countries together, there is little to moderate the rhetoric if a trade war replaces the cold war. Japan, at America's urging, is increasingly ready to take up global political and peace-keeping roles. Rancour is no basis for these new responsibilities. Washington, as well as Tokyo, must lay aside the armour and go back to the table.

## TAX ERROR IN THEIR FAVOUR

Have Chancellors become too clever for our own good?

The "customers" are becoming restless. Not only do they object to the very term used by the Inland Revenue: one *Times* correspondent recently pointed out that customers usually have a chance to take their custom elsewhere, while another suggested that "suppliers" might be a more appropriate word. Now it has emerged that at least one in every ten taxpayers, and possibly very many more, have been sent an inaccurate notice of coding this year. The restriction of several allowances to 20 per cent in the last two Budgets has apparently made calculations far more complicated, leaving greater room for error.

The "customer" is in a remarkably weak position. Appeals against a notice of coding have to be made in writing within 30 days. Yet very few people can twist their brains around the increasingly contorted system of allowances and taxable benefits to calculate whether their coding is correct. The result will be a bonanza for accountants.

The relationship between the Inland Revenue and its taxpayers is still unjustly asymmetrical. There seems to be one rule for the tax-gatherer and another for the taxpayer. While "customers" have to pay overdue taxes within 30 days, after which interest is charged, the Revenue can delay paying refunds until the end of the current financial year. Only then will interest be added. Most people recognise their duty to

pay tax, but they rightly resent being forced to give the Inland Revenue an interest-free loan for up to 12 months.

In a couple of years' time, anyone who earns any money on top of his or her PAYE income will be able to opt for self-assessment. The burden, and hence the cost, of assessment will be moved from the Government to individuals. So far, the suggestion is that self-assessment will be voluntary. But Britain could well follow the example of America, where it has become a headache for all, involving days of work, queues at tax offices to meet deadlines, and tough penalties for dilatory or inaccurate returns. Yesterday's revelations about the Revenue's mistakes may make many people feel that they are being pushed into self-assessment by default.

Yet coinciding with the move to self-assessment has been a fashion for increasingly tricky Budgets. Chancellors of the Exchequer may win plaudits for crafty tax gimmicks that seem to spirit billions of pounds out of the air without raising the basic rate of income tax. But the more complicated is the tax system, the harder it becomes for taxpayers either to spot errors made by the Inland Revenue or to assess their tax liability for themselves. Until Mr Clarke or his successors reverse the trend, the main winner will be the accountancy profession.

## Linking foreign aid to the promotion of exports

From Dr John Healey

Sir, I know of no studies which convincingly support the view put by the director general of the Export Group for the Constructional Industries (letter, February 4) that "the benefits to the British economy from ATP [the Aid and Trade Provision scheme] far outweigh the costs".

The aid component of mixed credits would be spent on British exports anyway; the availability of soft credit must undermine the willingness of overseas governments to buy British exports on any other terms, while the credit is not always repaid anyway.

Nor can the ATP encourage improved price-competitiveness of British companies. Indeed, there has been no convincing evidence of significant follow-on orders from ATP unsupported by further aid.

Experience with the Pergau dam project illustrates that the ATP scheme makes it very difficult to reconcile effective, economic use of aid with export promotion, while it has diverted aid from the poorest countries, which need it most.

Is it not time to abolish a scheme that makes an ambivalent contribution to British exports and competitiveness and impedes the Overseas Development Administration from managing this part of its aid programme in a way more helpful to poor countries?

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN HEALEY (Chief Economist,  
Overseas Development  
Administration, 1984-90),  
12 Grange Road, Sutton, Surrey.  
February 7.

From Mr Bernard A. Webb

Sir, It is disappointing to find Peter Riddell ("No UK scandal lurks in muddy water of Pergau", February 8) penning what appears to be a pre-emptive apology for the British Government's extraordinary and admitted linking of superfluous aid to arms sales to Malaysia, when it is clear there is more to the whole transaction than meets the taxpayer's eye.

## Prescription charges

From Mr Graham R. Steer

Sir, I suffer from a long-term medical condition (arthritis) and am one of those who stand in the queue and do not pay over the counter (Miss Fokett's letter, February 8). This is because I have a certificate of pre-payment or "season ticket".

To my personal dismay, I have never been asked to exhibit it when claiming exemption. It would be reassuring to know that a check on such claims is made afterwards in order to combat fraud.

Yours faithfully,  
G. R. STEER,  
3 Forge Cottages, Boarshead,  
Crowborough, East Sussex.

From Mr John G. Iles, FRPharmS

Sir, It is not as widely known as it should be that a "season ticket" for four or 12 months' supply of NHS medicines is available to anyone, costing at present £22 (four months) and £60.60 respectively.

In effect this means that nobody need spend more than £61 per year on NHS-prescribed medicines, which is especially helpful to people on long-term medication who are not exempt from charges. The break-even point is six prescriptions in four months and 15 in 12. Anyone needing more than this would benefit by investing in the season ticket; application is made with a pre-payment form, FP95, available from most pharmacies.

The increase to the prescription charge announced today will be effective from April 1. A season ticket purchased before then at the old rate will cover prescriptions at the new rate.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN G. ILES,  
49 Aberdeen Park, N5,  
February 15.

## Hong Kong's minority

From the Reverend Dr Joyce M. Bennett

Sir, Lord Bonham-Carter and others (letter, February 14) deserve parliamentary support for their plea that, in effect, full British citizenship be given to the non-Chinese ethnic minorities in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong is one of the few places where men and women of different racial and ethnic groups live together in harmony, working for the common good and mutual benefit of all.

A long-term resident since 1949, a member of the Legislative Council from 1976 to 1983 and frequent visitor since my retirement in 1983, I join with those calling for the British Government to act now to grant full British citizenship to those non-Chinese citizens of the ethnic minorities, who continue to give so much to the Hong Kong community.

My last visit in November-December 1993 showed me clearly how many Hong Kong citizens value the opportunity to remain in Hong Kong with a full British passport giving them a secure future.

Yours truly,  
JOYCE M. BENNETT  
(Chairman, Hong Kong  
Diocesan Association),  
88 Wright's Lane, Prestonwood,  
Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire.  
February 14.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Among the more irresponsible comments: "if that [increasing British exports and jobs] involved some nods and winks about arms deals, so what" and, from Lord Younger, "Great Britain pic has come out of all this very well". Riddell languidly describes this kind of approach as *realpolitik*. In reality it is government by deceit with, not for the first time, the British taxpayer treated with contempt by a government he has every right to look to for a moral, as well as a purely economic, lead.

Patently, it is not simply a matter of UK jobs and exports. At this early stage we know more than £200 million of taxpayers' money was squandered on a hopelessly uneconomic project. It looks like a bribe and, *realpolitik* or not, the Government should own up to it and the responsible politicians — be they ever so high and mighty — be called to account.

Yours faithfully,  
B. A. WEBB,  
Reichensteinerstrasse 42/4,  
4053 Basle, Switzerland.  
February 8.

From Mr John L. Marshall, MP for Hendon South (Conservative)

Sir, Peter Riddell is to be congratulated upon his dispassionate article about the Pergau deal. He might however have added that British trade with Malaysia has trebled since 1988. Other countries must be laughing at the reaction in this country to a deal which has safeguarded tens of thousands of British jobs. I wonder how French politicians would have reacted to a similar deal?

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN MARSHALL,  
House of Commons.

From Mr R. J. C. Wait

Sir, Mr Riddell maintains that the Pergau arms-for-dam deal "is less a scandal than an example of Lady Thatcher's distinctive approach to securing contracts with foreign governments", without referring to the reason why Malaysia had at that time

adopted a "buy British last" policy.

In 1981 the British Government infuriated Malaysia, as well as other developing countries, by withdrawing the financial assistance which, up to then, had been given to foreign students receiving education at British universities and similar institutions and had brought immense benefits to Britain.

The engineers, soldiers and other professionals so trained had been inclined to recommend throughout their working careers that machinery, consultancy services and the like should be obtained from the sources with which they had become familiar in their training.

Lady Thatcher failed to take these benefits into account. The colossal aid grant to which Sir Tim Lankester rightly objected was the heavy price needed to wipe out the consequences of petty cheese-parings.

Yours faithfully,  
R. J. C. WAIT  
(Malayan Civil Service, 1946-64),  
Grove Cottage, Weston Park,  
Bath, Avon.

From the Director of Actionaid

Sir, A 1991 OECD study found that aid brings no "significant macro-economic benefits" to the donor countries. It is surprising, then, that 70 per cent of Britain's bilateral aid is tied.

Recent research by Actionaid and Gallup shows that only 10 per cent of MPs believe that British aid should be used to help and support British trade, and that 87 per cent of MPs think it is important for the aid budget to pay greater attention to providing basic needs like primary health, primary education and clean water.

Yet the UN estimates that only 9 per cent of British bilateral aid is spent in this way. In the light of this evidence, why is our aid budget not more focused on reducing poverty?

Yours faithfully,  
MARTIN GRIFFITHS,  
Director, Actionaid,  
Hamlyn House,  
Macdonald Road, Archway, NI.

ones is the difficulty in obtaining tickets.

The large auditorium could also be one of the reasons for this democratic situation, and it is also said that the Met authorities are strict about paying excessive fees, believing that the artists' appearance at the Met is a reward in itself.

Could not London, Milan and Vienna come to such an agreement, and let the opera stars make their extra money from performances or recitals at venues for huge audiences outside the rather restricted opera houses?

Yours faithfully,  
J. P. GALLIANO,  
PO Box 75, 10th Floor,  
International Commercial Centre,  
Casemates Square, Gibraltar.

At the grassroots, especially but not only in what are officially designated as ecumenical parishes, Anglicans, Romans and Nonconformists are working together in Christian amity while still observing their own disciplines.

Some day we may be able to join each other at the altar rail. Then we shall really be able to establish that unity — something very different from uniformity — for which so many of us have prayed.

Yours faithfully,  
JAMES COBBAN,  
10 Coverdale Court, Preston Road,  
Yeovil, Somerset.

## Taxation policy

From Mr Nils Taube

Sir, Does the Chancellor really intend to reintroduce a tax on inflationary capital gains by revoking that part of the 1985 Finance Act which dealt with inflation adjusted cost? (Budget report, December 1, 1993; see also letter, February 15?)

In 1982 Lord Howe introduced a method of taxing capital gains caused by inflation that was an improvement on the original legislation introduced by Lord Callaghan in the 1965 Finance Act. The 1982 Budget permitted the original capital invested to be adjusted upwards by subsequent increases in the retail price index and allowed losses on other investments to offset such gains.

This turned out to be a very complicated calculation and in 1985 led to Lord Lawson introducing an amendment which in most cases assumed as-

sets to have been purchased on March 31, 1982, with the cost being subsequently adjusted for inflation.

The consequence was that if an investment appreciated by more than the inflation rate it was only taxed on the real appreciation, whereas investments sold for less than inflation-adjusted cost were deemed to be sold at a loss. Thus only the real net gains were taxed at capital gains tax rates.

The current Finance Bill attempts to change this system by allowing only losses expressed in terms of original purchase price to be offset against gains, which continue to be taxed only on the real gain above inflation. This is a particularly penal method of taxation, given that Lord Lawson in 1988 increased capital gains tax from a flat rate of 30 per cent to the top rate of an individual's income tax.

Yours faithfully,  
NILS TAUBE,  
21 St James's Place, SW1.

From Mr Michael Coates

Sir, I am one of the million taxpayers who have been sent an inaccurate coding. My accountant had already spotted the error and informed the Inland Revenue. Who should pay his bill?

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL COATES,  
4 St Peter's Villas, W6,  
February 15.

## Topical gardening tips set to music

From Professor Emeritus Edward Garden

Sir, I much enjoyed your third leader, "The mulch of love" (February 10), covering the removal of the old hands from that quintessentially British programme on Radio 4, *Gardeners' Question Time*, to Classic FM, where the questions will be interspersed with music. Your leader writer, however, could have broadened the spectrum of appropriate British music.

Vaughan Williams's *A Pastoral Symphony* springs to mind, but even more suitable would be Delius's "In a Summer Garden", and "Walk to the Paradise Garden", which is no doubt free of all garden pests. Nor need the Scots be outdone by the English: if alpine, rock or water gardens are discussed, what about Hamish MacCunn's overture "Land of the Mountain and the Flood", especially if solutions are being sought for adverse weather conditions.

What a pleasure it will be to listen to this Saturday afternoon programme on a deck-chair in the summer, with a background sound of buzzing insects (Vaughan-Williams's overture to *The Wasps*, perhaps, or, to go beyond our shores, Rimsky-Korsakov's "Flight of the Bumble Bee"), with a cooling drink in one hand and a pencil with which to jot down the useful tips in the other. As good as watching a cricket match any day.

Yours faithfully,  
EDWARD GARDEN,  
The University of Sheffield,  
Department of Music,  
Sheffield S10 2TN,  
February 10.

From Dr Nicholas Marston

Sir, "Lettuce now praise Classic FM", indeed! Might not the indulgence of the newly-translated audience from *Gardeners' Question Time* extend to the "Tuber mirum" from Mozart's *Requiem*?

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS MARSTON,  
University of Exeter,  
Department of Music,  
Exeter EX4 4PD,  
February 10.

From Mr John Thompson

Sir, Mixing music with *Classic Gardeners' Forum* will be like serving custard on beef or wearing a dinner-jacket with jeans. The Philistines are upon us.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN THOMPSON,  
4 Coquet Grove, Throckley,  
Newcastle upon Tyne.

## Redundant churches

From Dr John Shannon

Sir, Mr Hugh Norwood (letter, February 5) advises the Lord Mayor of London and his colleagues to see how York has created new houses in the city centre and has planned many more. This has fulfilled one of the main recommendations in the government-sponsored 1968 report by Lord Esher, *York: A Study in Conservation*.

But the Lord Mayor would see much more: he would see how, thanks to the help of the Church Commissioners, exciting and appropriate new uses have been found for our many redundant medieval churches, and in such a way that with the burgeoning city-centre population they can, if necessary, be easily returned to their original use. In the meantime, they stand as silent but eloquent witnesses to the Christian faith and also make a significant contribution to the city's townscape.

So, my Lord Mayor of London, heed Mr Norwood's advice and visit York, the second city in England. You will return home informed, enlightened and encouraged to save those superb City of London churches.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN SHANNON  
(Chairman),  
York Civic Trust,  
Fairfax House, Castlegate, York.

## Persuasive trio

From Dr Allan Jackson

Sir, Recent articles by your columnist Janet Daley, not least those on the moral interventionism of government (January 13) and on the proposed amendment to the homosexual age of consent (January 27), have seemed to me of exceptional merit — persuasively argued, powerfully structured and philosophically significant.

I believe that in the work of Mrs Daley, your economics analyst, Anatole Kaletsky, and your satirical observer, Matthew Parris, we are witnessing an efflorescence of newspaper writing of a calibre previously unequalled in this country.

Yours faithfully,  
ALLAN JACKSON,  
14 Latimer Lane,  
Guisborough, Cleveland.

## Game of chance

From Mr C. Greenhalgh

Sir, Could they not decide who is to run the national lottery by drawing lots amongst the lottery players?

Yours faithfully,  
C. GREENHALGH,  
Rosemary House, 16 Church Street,  
Hampton-on-Thames, Middlesex.

Business letters, page 21

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.







## OBITUARIES

## DR J. D. W. PEARCE

Dr J. D. W. Pearce, psychiatrist, died on January 25 aged 89. He was born on February 21, 1904.

J. D. W. PEARCE's career in psychiatry spanned sixty years. In the 1950s and 1960s this dynamo of a man was, concurrently, senior psychiatrist at St Mary's Hospital and Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children and consultant psychiatrist at the Royal Masonic Hospital and St Dunstan's. He also ran single-handedly the psychiatric teaching at Mary's and managed a large Harley Street practice. He was one of a coterie of psychiatrists who at that time dominated London psychiatry.

A descendant of the Jacobite outlaw hero Rob Roy MacGregor, John Dalziel Wyndham Pearce — known as Jack — was born in Edinburgh, the son of a cloth merchant, and educated at George Watson's College and Edinburgh University, where he qualified as a doctor in 1927.

His psychiatric career began in 1928, inauspiciously. He joined the staff at Chatham Down, a lunatic asylum in Kent where the wards were filled with parrots which would descend on unwary doctors as they entered any room. Otherwise there was little sign of life, and a new doctor would usually smartly leave or else sink into the prevailing lethargy. Neither course was acceptable to Pearce. He stayed on for two years, battling for treatment provision. He vainly pressed for weekly visits from a surgeon, for instance, but did eventually manage to acquire surgical instruments. These enabled him to do his own surgery, draining neglected empyemas and abscesses, setting fractures, and so forth.

From Kent he went to The Towers, another asylum, in Leicester, and, to his normal duties, he added work at the child guidance clinic, became an assistant pathologist, and started outpatient clinics (then innovations). He envisaged staying there for the rest of his days, the standard of psychiatry being as good as then existed. But after six years he enrolled for a short weekly course at the Tavistock Clinic, in London, the best place for psychotherapy in the country. This merely whetted his appetite, so he decided to have analysis done on himself by Emanuel



Miller (Jonathan Miller's father). This meant finding a post meanwhile in London, and these were few and far between. Fortunately the remand service was looking for a part-time psychiatrist and Pearce was appointed in 1936. He was well equipped for the job on paper, having obtained his psychiatric qualification, DPM, in 1930, been made a member of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh in 1933, and been given his doctorate the same year. He had also worked in Leicester with R. B. Catell, a leading child psychologist. Moving to this part-time post was financially rash so he simultaneously put up his plate in Harley Street, throwing himself into private practice.

His textbook, *Juvenile Delinquency* (1952), called from his remand work many examples of young offenders,

their offences and their psychopathology. In it, Pearce argued for the necessity for education and not harsh punishment, such as the birching which was a common practice when Pearce first became involved with delinquents. Long out of print it continues to appear on reading lists for postgraduate students.

At the start of the Second World War Pearce volunteered for service in the RAMC. Becoming one of J. R. Rees's seven original command psychiatrists, he was later promoted Lieutenant-Colonel, Officer-in-Command, Northfield, and in 1944 he went overseas as Adviser in Psychiatry, Allied Force Headquarters, Central Mediterranean Forces. He was mentioned in dispatches.

On demobilisation he resumed private practice and, for a year, remand

service work. Several hospital consultant appointments quickly followed and in 1952 he was made Psychiatrist-in-Charge of the Department of Psychiatry at St Mary's — largely a courtesy title for no department then existed, no beds were available, and out-patients had to be interviewed in a single room with screens separating psychiatrist, psychologist, and social worker. Pearce quickly wheedled seven beds from the Professor of Medicine, and after subsequently appealing to the Minister of Health, his department was moved into a suitably converted four-storey house, which served it well until the mid-1970s.

Pearce was the most general of all clinical psychiatrists and was often called upon to provide an opinion for one of his colleagues. He was involved in several important legal cases and was persuaded to sit on many boards, councils and committees, including the Army Psychiatry Advisory Committee and Schizophrenia Research Fund. He also examined widely.

Yes his clinical work did not suffer. Patients loved him and students queued up to sit in with him, or view him through a one-way screen. For some of them this was when they decided to make psychiatry their career. Although he retired from hospital appointments at 65, he continued to see patients well into his eighties.

In 1988 he returned to Edinburgh. He had remained a Scot. What leisure he gave himself had been spent at golf, and curling at Richmond ice rink, but his holidays were always spent in the West Highlands, fishing, and his club was the Leacanish. So he and his wife Elizabeth moved to a flat overlooking the Royal Burgess Golf Course. But their happiness was already marred by the untimely death of Elizabeth's daughter from another marriage in 1987. Pearce took badly to inactivity. He and his wife made an annual visit to London, although he was becoming increasingly frail and immobile. Former juniors, now senior consultants, were invited to dinner, one at a time, to discuss with him what was happening in psychiatry. This he enjoyed, although it took him weeks to recover. He is survived by his second wife, Elizabeth.

## CLIFTON CHILD

Clifton Child, OBE, former administrative officer in the Cabinet Office historical section, died on February 7 aged 81. He was born on June 20, 1912.

A BRITISH student in 1933 Berlin, "Cliff" Child was in at the birth of Nazi Germany. He was among those horrified onlookers at the ritualistic "burning of the books" after Hitler's thugs had ransacked the city's libraries. But Child was given the chance to get his own back. A decade later in the peaceful setting of Woburn Abbey he was a leading figure in the Political Warfare Executive (PWE), broadcasting misinformation to the Germans.

By then an acknowledged specialist on Germany, he worked with the Fleet Street journalist Stefan Delmer, preparing scripts and advising on PWE strategy as part of Britain's black propaganda war. Delmer later wrote a book, *Black Boomerang* (1962), about their work.

Clifton James Child was born in Birmingham, the son of a skilled coach builder who worked for the old London and North Western Railway and was once employed in building the royal train. Young Clifton went to Moseley Grammar School, then won a scholarship to Birmingham University where he took a first class degree in history three years later.

He won a second scholarship to Berlin University, then a fellowship to the University of Wisconsin where he carried out research on the ethnic Germans in the United States and their influence over Washington in the First World War. His thesis, which made him a Master of Philosophy, was published in book form as *The German-Americans in Politics* in 1939.

Returning to this country, Child worked for a short while in Manchester as education



officer for Lancashire Community Council, before being called up by the Army in 1940. But he served in the Royal Corps of Signals only briefly before his wider talents were recognised and he was seconded to the PWE.

After the war he joined the Foreign Office research department and was put in charge of its American section. After 13 years he moved to head the African section in 1958, then four years later became deputy librarian and departmental record officer.

He was promoted to the post of librarian and keeper of the papers in 1965 and joined the Cabinet Office four years after that. Working under the Cabinet Secretary, Sir Burke Trend, Child ran the historical section for seven years with special responsibility for papers relating to intelligence. In that capacity he helped Professor Sir Harry Hinsley, who began work in 1973 on the official history of intelligence in the Second World War.

Child was also deeply involved in the internal debate which followed the first leaked disclosures in the early 1970s of the part played by the Ultra wartime code breaking operations at Bletchley Park. It was he who assembled a special committee under the chairmanship of Sir Dick White,

then head of the Secret Intelligence Service, to decide how far Whitehall should go in releasing the full details about Ultra.

Child himself, by now an authority on the Official Secrets Act, was strongly influential in persuading the intelligence authorities that Hinsley should be given full rein, providing that current security was not jeopardised. In dealing with research requests from authors and historians, he consistently took the liberal view that the truth was considerably less damaging than half-truths.

Although he retired in 1976, Child kept closely in touch with political research. *Hitler's Europe* (1954), in which he was involved with Arnold Toynbee among others, was the only other book with which he was connected. But he continued regularly to learn journals and wrote reviews for the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House). He was elected a fellow of the Royal Historical Society in 1965.

He travelled widely throughout his life after starting to cycle around Europe as a boy. Every year he took his family abroad to spend a month in some distant corner of the world. When at home, he indulged his intense love of gardening. He was a knowledgeable member of the Royal Horticultural Society and regularly attended local shows.

His Berlin-born wife Hilde was the girl sitting opposite Child on the train on which he travelled home from Germany 60 years ago. The daughter of a director of the Osram company — and pioneer in the development of the light bulb — she was travelling on her own for the first time, with strict instructions not to talk to strangers on the train. But this one started talking to her — and they celebrated their golden wedding six years ago.

She and their two sons survive him.

## HELEN STEPHENS

Helen Stephens, an American athlete who won two gold medals at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, died on January 17 aged 75. She was born in 1918 in Fulton, Missouri.

THEY called her "the Fulton flash," and Helen Stephens lived up to the name before 100,000 spectators at the Berlin Olympics when she won the final of the women's 100 metres in an Olympic and world record time of 11.4 seconds. The record was destined to stand for 24 years, until it was beaten by Wilma Rudolph in 1960.

Stephens won her second gold medal by running the anchor leg for the winning United States team in the women's 4x100 metres relay, and her achievements gained her the title of "Woman Athlete of the Year".

An all-round athlete, Stephens began her track career



with her home-town high school team in 1933. Before going to Berlin she had won three national US championships and held the national records for the 100 and 220 yards sprints. She also achieved record indoor performances in the 50-metre dash, the shot-put and the standing

long jump. Stephens turned professional in 1937. Her athletic career was ended by the Second World War in which she joined the Marines. She later worked for the Defence Mapping Agency as a research librarian. She leaves no immediate family.

## RICHARD THOMAS

Richard Thomas, radio producer, died after a collapse on February 9 aged 40. He was born on April 11, 1953.

THOUGH a youngish man when he died, there was already a sense in which Richard Thomas belonged to a BBC which is vanishing. He had little time for meetings, management systems, low-grade accountability and status and hierarchy.

He did not waste a lot of effort resenting these things but instead largely ignored them. But he recognised that the informal intimacy which characterised his style of production was increasingly threatened by a new bureaucracy. This is not to suggest that he was somehow otherworldly. For more than ten years he was in charge of *Meet for Lunch*, a daily current affairs programme on Radio Wales. It is not the sort of job that can be done without

ideas and the ability to put them into practice.

At the same time he was involved in a variety of other programmes of quite remarkable range. They included the arts, about which he was serious and knowledgeable, and comedy, to which he brought his particular combination of mischief and melancholy as well as a taste for elaborate puns. He brought these talents to bear as well on two programmes which he was instrumental in establishing on Radio 4: *Out of Order*, the political quiz, and *Tea Junction*, both of which have become long-running series.

Richard Clement Pierce Thomas was born in Laugharne, the eldest of eight children of Clem and Joan Thomas. He was educated at Llandovery, the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, and University College, Bangor. He taught briefly before spending a year at the Centre for Journalism Studies which Sir Tom Hopkinson had established at University College, Cardiff. He joined BBC Wales as a presentation announcer in 1978 before moving into production.

His great strengths as a producer included the fact that he was totally fastidious about the finished product, with a schoolmasterly horror of errors of language and syntax. He also had unrivalled skills in conjuring up contributors and facilities where people of less quiet charm would have failed. Above all, his aim was to get people to do their best work rather than impose himself on a production. The important matters having been agreed beforehand, he would often sit completely silent throughout a recording, although if he did intervene it was invariably to good purpose. He would then go into the studio, smile and say: "A cracking show." Which meant that it really was.

His parents survive him.

## JOHN HOBSON

John Hobson, CBE, advertising executive, died on February 1 aged 84. He was born on September 23, 1909.

THE son of a Keeper of Oriental Ceramics at the British Museum, John Hobson won senior scholarships to both Rugby School and King's College, Cambridge. These academic achievements led to his gaining a double first in the Classical Tripos at Cambridge, where he also edited *Granta*. He was captain of the King's College hockey XI and later won his county colours for tennis.

John Waller Hobson started work with the London Press Exchange in 1930. He believed strongly in the importance of the freedom of the market place, for which he continually worked and lectured. When, in 1972, he was awarded this country's highest advertising honour, the Mackintosh medal, the citation concluded that his intelligence and clear-thinking had been of unmistakable benefit to the industry.

After the Second World War, during which he served as the youngest assistant secretary in the Civil Service, he joined Colman, Prentiss & Varley, where his talents for research and his managerial skills evolved in two directions: agency director in charge of export development; and progenitor of the Hulton readership researches, which developed into today's National Readership Surveys.

His next major achievement, in 1953, was to start his own advertising agency (John Hobson & Partners) which rapidly prospered. In 1959 he merged with the Ted Bates agency of New York, becoming chairman and managing director of Hobson Bates. He had taken the examinations of the Institute of Practitioners in

Advertising, becoming a member in 1934 and a fellow in 1951. By the time of his death, his membership of IPA extended over 60 years — believed to be a record. With his dedication to advertising, he worked 25 years on the IPA Council, and was its president, 1965-67.

During his presidency he masterminded a radical change in the organisation of the whole business. The Advertising Association was fundamentally changed into a federation of the three sides of the business: advertisers, advertising agencies and the



media. This major step provided stronger organisation able to cope with considerable problems in a time of great change: investigations by Reith and Molony, the Trade Descriptions Act, the new Office of Fair Trading, Labour policies on prices and incomes, the ill-fated National Plan (which never made any mention of marketing or selling).

More direct threats were to come. Hobson was drawing to the end of his time as chairman of the Advertising Association, when the Labour Government's Secretary of State for Consumer Affairs,

Shirley Williams, and the then director of the Office of Fair Trading, John Methven, threatened legislation to control advertisements. The self-regulatory system plainly needed to be considerably improved to avert this danger.

The first British Code of Advertising Practice had appeared in 1960, piloted by its Code of Advertising Practice Committee: it was followed in 1962 by the Advertising Standards Authority to oversee its work. But the ASA had been poorly financed and so, nudged by the threat of legislative intervention, the AA — motivated and organised by John Hobson — quickly introduced a levy which, to this day, provides adequate funds for the ASA's "legal, decent, honest, truthful" campaign which has greatly improved the standards of control protecting the public.

Given his work on the Dollar Export Advertising Council after the war, his CBE export responsibilities and his own agency's worldwide business, it was only appropriate that Hobson should become president of the European Association of Advertising Agencies in Brussels, 1971-75. The EAAA was set up as a British IPA initiative in 1960, before the UK was even a member of what was then known as the Common Market.

While president of the EAAA he received the International Advertising Association's medal in 1974: the IAA makes one such award each year and its recipient is commonly known as "adman of the world". Hobson was appointed CBE in 1976, one of only five people in the business ever to receive an honour "for services to advertising". He is survived by his wife Barbara, three sons and a daughter.

## PERSONAL COLUMN

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Free catalogue. Hire, cash, credit. 100% of profits from the sale of this card. Including Digital Photos you can have one from just £20. 1997 terms.

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# Benetton blasts another taste frontier

The fashionable Italian clothes company has done it again.  
Alan Mitchell discovers that its ads may be the way of the future

But is it advertising? Yesterday, a new campaign by Benetton started in 110 countries. Hot on the heels of images of newborn babies with umbilical cords and near-dead AIDS victims comes a single image: a photo of the blood-stained T-shirt and trousers worn by a man killed in Bosnia Herzegovina last July. A message in Serbo-Croat from the father of the victim, 30-year-old Marinko Gagro, states that he would like his son's name, and all that remains of him, to be used in the name of peace and against war. To mark the point home, a special edition of *Ostobodenje*, the Sarajevo daily newspaper run by a collective of Serbs, Croats and Muslims, is being delivered to the world's "top 80 heads of state".

Globally, Benetton will spend about \$15 million on this campaign. The publicity it will receive will multiply its value many times over. "PRadvertising", the industry calls it: using advertising to startle the media into talking about you. By "perfecting tastelessness" — in the words of David Kershaw, Saatchi

& Saatchi's managing director — Benetton seems to have got PRadvertising down to a fine art — to the extent that some feel that articles such as this simply give oxygen to marketing gimmickery. A Liberal Democrat spokeswoman explains why the party does not want to comment: "It is so repulsive, so pathetic. Why give Benetton more publicity? Even if you say it is outrageous, you are promoting Benetton, aren't you?"

When somebody does advertising concerned with real problems, consumers are shocked

The message is superfluous, adds Sir Peter Hordern, chairman of the Tory Party's European affairs committee. Consumers have already been shocked by what they have seen on television. Clothes-company ads "won't make people like me any more anxious to reach a peace".

Yet at the same time Benetton is earning admiration for being in the avant garde of marketing — what it does shockingly today, others will do more quietly tomorrow. It is selling itself as a company, as well as selling its products. This, says Oliviero Toscani, the photographer behind the Benetton strategy, comes after a recognition



UNITED COLORS OF BENETTON

The Benetton advertisement from yesterday's papers and (inset) Marinko Gagro, the student who died wearing the clothes pictured

that modern companies are social-political entities and that all their communications have a social-political content.

Wally Olins, chairman of Wolff Olins, a corporate identity consultancy, agrees. "Personally", he

says, "I loathe the ads. But the day is past when a corporation's sole role was just to make money. Companies have become too powerful. The next inevitable step is that they have to make their point of view known."

Rupert Howell, managing director of Howell Henry Caldecott Lury, an advertising agency whose ads have also met controversy, also backs Benetton. Increasingly, he says, consumers are looking to the company behind the brand. "When

they have a choice of 30 shops to buy sweaters from, they are asking, are these the kind of people I want to give my money to? Benetton-style advertising forces consumers to confront the increasingly fictional boundaries between

"editorial" and "advertising", argues Mr Howell. Why is using an image in an ad exploitative, and in a newspaper not? "The MTV [ie. younger] generation knows that all editorial has a message and that both have commercial interests behind them," he says. And it challenges advertisers to rethink the role of advertising. Mr Toscani says: "Why does advertising just talk about stupid, fooling, superficial things? Consumers are so accustomed to advertising that makes them stupid that when somebody does advertising that is concerned with real problems, they are shocked."

Benetton spokeswoman claims that the aim is not to sell more sweaters. The ad campaigns are "a long-term intangible investment in the brand image. We want to be remembered as the company that is innovative, adventurous, that is prepared to take risks, that has enlarged the boundaries of communication."

In purely commercial terms, the strategy seems to be working. Over the past two recession-hit years, Benetton sales through its 7,000 outlets worldwide have risen by 22 per cent, profits by 39 per cent.

Nevertheless, shock tactics inevitably face diminishing returns. Britain's Advertising Standards Authority has so far taken a relatively relaxed view of the new campaign partly because, it says, previous ads have established a context. "If people look at it and think 'Oh, it's just another Benetton ad', they are less likely to be offended," a spokesperson says. "It's like, how many times can you drop your trousers in public?"

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To apply, please send full career details to Carlo Precati, International Human Resources, SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals, SB House, Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9BD.

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### INTERNATIONAL MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES

A diamond is forever



The Central Selling Organisation, the marketing arm of De Beers, one of the World's leading producers of rough gem diamonds, is seeking to recruit a Regional Director to join its Consumer and Advertising Division based in London.

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- ◆ build trade relations and direct trade promotional activities;
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Candidates will be in their early to mid 30s with an MBA or equivalent. They should speak at least one major Far Eastern language and will be fluent in English. They will need to be able to show:

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- ◆ senior advertising agency experience;
- ◆ experience of living and/or working in the Far East markets including Japan.

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We are a successful independently owned Sales and Marketing company, who distribute products on behalf of LINCOLN NATIONAL and CITIBANK in the UK. Due to impending management promotion, we have two positions in one of our key offices. After an intensive training course, you will join a small team of highly qualified professionals and you enrol in our development programme which will prepare you for a future management position (with full profit participation). Management experience essential. Age 25 to 35. Call Karl Jacobs at CITY FINANCIAL PARTNERS on 071-379 5995 ext. 30022

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Two of the world's most influential English language broadcasting organisations are the subject of new scrutiny

# Hail the saviours of Auntie

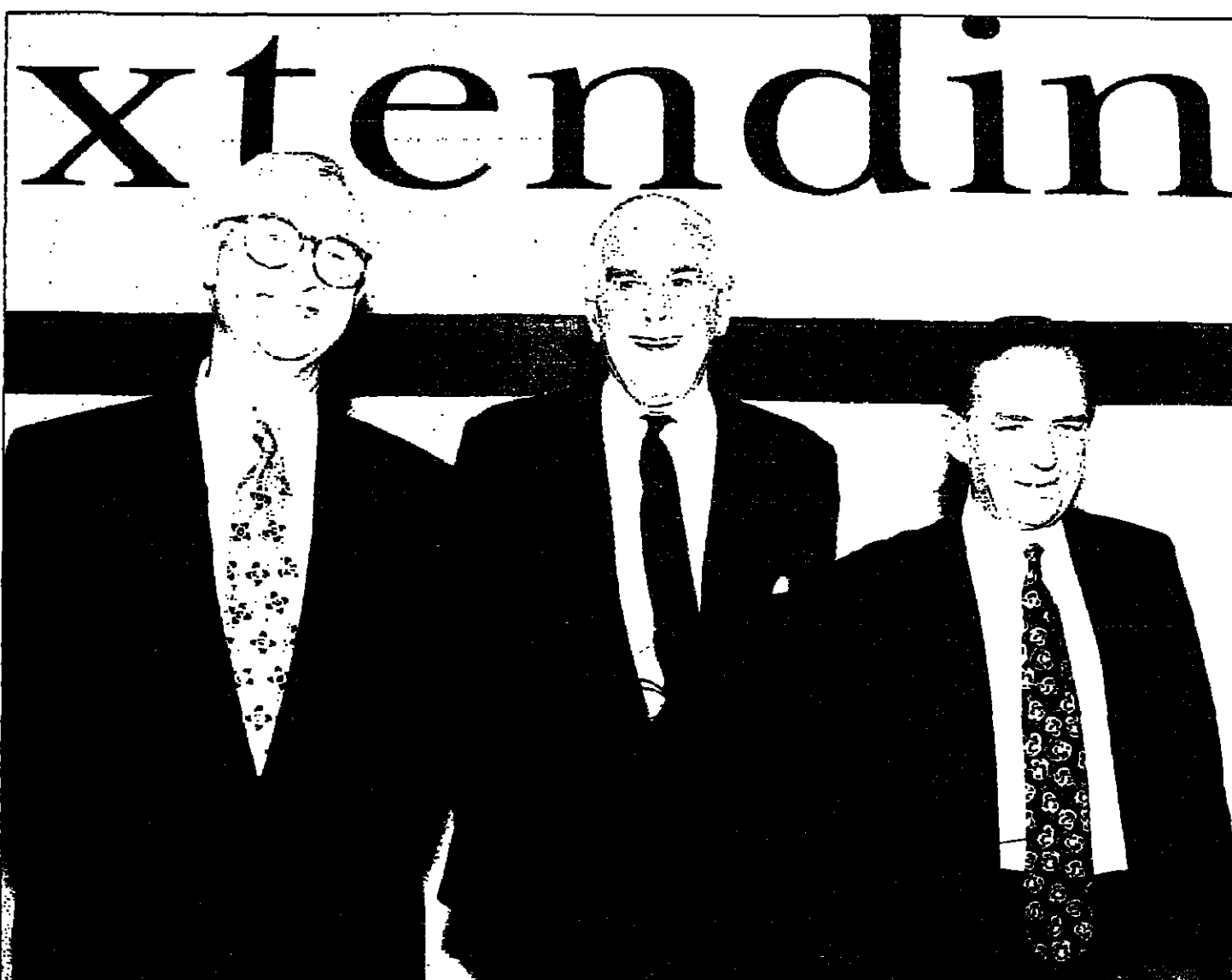
A new book details how the BBC was saved for the nation. But, Roy Hattersley asks, will the story end happily ever after?

The BBC is more than a national institution. It is an object of peculiar — but wholly understandable — fascination. Everyone who pays the licence fee has a proprietary interest in an enterprise that exhibits all the characteristics of an industrial conglomerate — a huge budget to be squandered or spent wisely, a product which has to compete against that of ruthless rivals, and ambitious executives whose real-life boardroom struggles might be the plot for a television mini-series.

Yet, in one particular, the BBC is special. Every viewer can identify with the broadcasters whose programmes invade their living rooms. Men and women who are bored and bewildered by annual company reports are fascinated by the fortunes of the big business which manufactures *Casualty*, *The Last of the Summer Wine* and *EastEnders*. "The Board of Governors may not be pleased to read the tabloid headlines 'The British Bankers Corporation' and 'Biased, Bankrupt, Corrupt', but those insults were proof that the BBC is part of the nation's daily life. Those headlines were published

when the BBC was being accused, by Margaret Thatcher and the Tory Party, of twin crimes — political bias and financial irresponsibility. *Fuzzy Monsters* is the story of how the BBC survived that challenge and lived to look forward with confidence to the renewal of its charter in 1996. It would be a pity if the silly title deterred potential readers from buying the book. For the authors, Chris Horrie and Steve Clarke, have put together a compulsive narrative about power, treachery and ambition.

The drama has a comic-villain. He is Marmaduke Hussey, BBC chairman and the man who, according to Portland Place folklore, had so little interest in broadcasting that, for all he knew, FM stood for fuzzy monsters. On the day of his appointment, he certainly boasted about his ignorance of the corporation and all its works. Since then, at least according to the Horrie-Clarke narrative, he has passed most of his days in a state of detached bewilderment. But occasionally — in the manner of an officer and gentleman — he made a decisive intervention. He must take much of the blame for the sacking of director-general Alistair



Three men who rocked the BBC boat: from left, director-general John Birt, chairman Marmaduke Hussey and Sir Michael Checkland

Milne, and for the deplorable manner in which the deed was done. When Milne's successor, Michael Checkland, was eased out to make way for John Birt, it was again Duke Hussey who was responsible. Because *Fuzzy Monsters* is a title without meaning, Horrie and Clarke have subtitled their book "Fear and Loathing at the BBC". It might have been more appropriately called "The John Birt Story". For the whole account of the BBC's development — dating back to when "a rising young star in the world of commercial television" commissioned a documentary on the super-

iority of American television management — seems, at least with the advantage of hindsight, like an explanation of why the arrival and anointment of the "Man in the Armani Suits" was inevitable. *Fuzzy Monsters* is not the anti-Birt polemic that some of the pre-publication whispers suggested it would be. But it does faithfully chronicle his weaknesses and his embarrassments. There have been many conversations with his numerous detractors. But the sad fact about the book — and even sadder conclusion for the BBC's future — is that Birt's appointment achieved its objective.

Together with Hussey he created a corporation which the Government will neither kill nor maim. John Birt certainly dispelled the myth that the BBC was run by left-wing intellectuals. It was one of his satraps who prevented the broadcast of the pre-election *Panorama* which criticised the Government's economic record. More important, Birt himself was the true begetter of *Producer Choice*, the much ridiculed introduction of the internal market into programme making. Some of Birt's less helpful supporters described the whole operation as a replay of *The Bridge on the River*

Kwai. The senior officer thought it best to do what his captors expected of him. At least that policy has saved the BBC from fragmentation, financial catastrophe, and the further movement down-market that advertising would require. It has also provided the plot for an exciting story. The elegance and wit with which Horrie and Clarke tell it should not persuade us to forget that we are a long way off a happy ending.

● *Fuzzy Monsters: Fear and Loathing at the BBC* by Chris Horrie and Steve Clarke was published this week by Heinemann (£16.95)

## January sales crisis

Millions must be spent to halt the Independent's declining sales

As Tony O'Reilly and the Andreas Whitlam Smith/Mirror Group consortium parry bids for *The Independent*, the newspaper's crisis deepened in the first month of 1994.

Sales — are now below 300,000, down by 62,000 (18 per cent) on a year ago, the worst performance of any national daily. *The Independent* was the only paper among the four main quality broadsheets whose sales failed to lift in January. At 50p, against 30p for *The Times* and 45p for *The Guardian*, it is now selling fewer copies than in 1987, its first full year of publication, and could soon be overtaken by the *Financial Times*, only 7,000 behind.

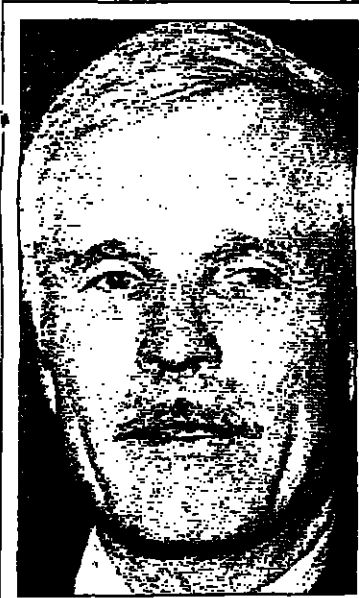
*The Independent* on Sunday is outselling its daily stablemate by nearly 60,000. Sales lifted by 15,700 last month, against 11,000 for *The Observer*. But year-on-year sales were down 45,700 (11.5 per cent), the worst performance of any national Sunday.

Whichever rival bidder becomes the new owner of *The Independent* will now be forced to spend millions to restore the paper even to its position before the price cut by *The Times* last September. It was then 28,000 behind *The Times* and 65,000 behind *The Guardian*. Now *The Times* has a lead of 165,000 and *The Guardian* is 115,000 ahead.

The success of the 1993 price cuts by *The Sun* and *The Times* in boosting sales was demonstrated even more powerfully in the first month of 1994. A 7p price differential and a one-day-only cover price of 10p boosted *Sun* sales almost to 4 million and opened a record lead over the *Daily Mirror* of more than 1.5 million. Another one-day-only 10p price increase of *Today* to 570,000, up 66,000 on a year ago. Meanwhile sales of *The Times* have risen by more than 100,000 (nearly 30 per cent) since the price was cut to 30p.

With sales of both *The Sunday Times* (up 51,000) and the *News of the World* (up 152,000) flourishing, all five News International titles are selling more copies than a year ago, a situation applying to only one other paper, *The Sunday Telegraph*. Given the competition from *The Times*, *The Daily Telegraph* will also be well satisfied that it started 1994 with a sale of 1,032,944, only 3,000 (0.29 per cent) down on a year ago.

BRIAN MACARTHUR



Ted Turner: a risk-taker

## The man who had the last laugh

Once upon a time, they all laughed at Ted Turner. He was notorious for his vulgarity, anti-intellectualism, drunkenness, womanising and fondness for bombast. He was as typical of American cable television as ugly George. Remember him? The unshaven New Yorker in the silver shell suit, looking like an unwashed astronaut, who had a cable show in Manhattan he shot in shop doorways. Both Turner and George were invited to speak at an Edinburgh Television Festival at the beginning of the 1980s, as representatives of their industry. And how the audience laughed — even though Turner already ran Cable News Network providing 24-hour news to cable systems all over

Ted Turner brought 24-hour cable news channels to the world. Bruce Fireman charts his journey from ridicule to riches

America, was about to launch another service and was preparing for offshoots to be available by satellite in the rest of the world. Turner's story, told in Porter Bibb's amusing and informative new book, *It Ain't as Easy as it Looks*, is of a taker of enormous risks. He has bet his boots and his personal fortune many times.

Starting with a successful outdoor poster business built up by his father, Turner moved into off-air television in Atlanta in 1968. Although nearly everything else was already in colour, Turner broadcast

such shows as *Lassie* and *I Love Lucy* in living black and white. Perhaps because he did not know any better or perhaps because he was so darn clever, he bought old films outright, rather than licensing them for a few showings.

As for news, Turner hired one Bill Tush as his station's presenter and scheduled him at a time when he would have little, indeed no, competition: three o'clock each morning. Tush's job was to rip and read straight off the wire machine, and to add some variety, straight from the *Atlanta Constitution*.

When the local baseball team did badly — which it did for six years — the scores were read out by Tush with his head in a paper bag. In 1971, the station lost \$500,000. It broke even the following year, then made profits of \$1 million in 1973.

But by 1972, the law had been changed to enable cable television operators to import so-called distant signals, so when satellites arrived, Turner's corny little station could be broadcast to the whole of the USA — and it owned outright thousands of hours of old films and programmes.

Thereafter, Turner added one and then another all-news channel, proving that 24-hour news could be as successful on television as on radio. He had bet the whole company again and again: when he started, only about a quarter of American homes took cable. But the rising tide lifts all ships: things came right as more households subscribed, and Turner continually improved the quality.

And Turner got richer and richer. And he married Jane Fonda. And it's difficult to laugh at him any more. And Ugly George? Whatever happened to him?

● *Bruce Fireman is chief executive of London News Radio. It Ain't as Easy as it Looks* by Porter Bibb is published by Virgin Books (£16.99)

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THE TIMES

THE SUNDAY TIMES

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## MANAGEMENT 29

Technology helps  
to keep the  
criminals at bay

## ARTS 33-35

A celebration of  
Spanish culture  
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Maurice Field:  
Ireland's centre  
of attention

TELEVISION  
AND  
RADIO  
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# THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 16 1994

Clarke faces market pressure to cut rates ahead of tax rise

## Fall in output threatens growth hopes

By JANET BUSH AND  
PHILIP BASSETT

A SURPRISE fall in manufacturing production in December, combined with yesterday's survey from the Confederation of British Industry, which showed retail sales growing at the slowest rate for a year, prompted suspicions that the recovery may have started to flag, months before the economy is hit by very large tax increases.

The Central Statistical Office said manufacturing output fell 0.5 per cent in December and was only 0.5 per cent higher in the final quarter than the third quarter. Industrial production, including energy sectors, fell 0.6 per cent in December and was 1.3 per cent higher quarter-on-quarter.

The data coincides with a study by *The Times*, which suggests that part-time work, especially for men in manufacturing industry, is soaring — and may well be the key reason for the fall in unemployment.

Ministers hope new Government figures out this morning will show seasonally adjusted unemployment continuing to fall, but the new analysis carried out by *The Times* suggests much of the decline in unemployment is being soaked up by part-time jobs only.

The CSO, meanwhile, estimated that manufacturing is now growing at only 1 per cent a year, the lowest rate of growth reported for a year. If this level of output growth

■ Suspicions are mounting that economic recovery is flagging even before taxes are increased. Meanwhile soaring part-time work is helping the unemployment figures

continues, it would take British industry about five years to regain the level of production that prevailed before the recession.

The main economic indicators, including manufacturing when taking a longer run of figures, are still pointing upwards but growth is only moderate at best and we may now be seeing the first signs of the recovery losing momentum. Crucial to a more informed view will be today's Government figures for retail sales and retail price inflation and a longer run of statistics for production.

At the very least, this week's data, which have also included very subdued industrial costs, justify last week's 0.25 per cent rate cut and suggest further cuts may be needed to offset tax increases.

Michael Saunders, chief UK economist at Salomon Brothers, said: "This week's figures so far say the recovery is only moderate, not quick, and that inflation trends are good. With taxes going up, there is every justification for further rate cuts."

Although sterling futures markets so far are not pricing in another base-rate cut, there is considerable talk on the subject in other markets. Equities posted healthy gains, with the FT-SE 100 closing 29.7 higher at 3,393.2, mostly as a

reaction to last week's steep losses but perhaps also in anticipation of base-rate cuts.

Gilts held up well despite falls in European markets on growing pessimism over a German rate cut this week. Sterling fell again, finishing at 80.4 on its trade-weighted index compared with 80.7 on Monday.

*The Times* analysis on employment, using Government data, indicates that men are moving into jobs previously believed to be the preserve of female employment. Labour-market analysts suggest the reason may be that unemployed men are despairing of ever again finding the full-time jobs that previously characterised male employment.

But *The Times* analysis may also indicate the growing strength of the economic recovery, since it is in manufacturing industry, rather than the service sector, where the sharpest growth in part-time work, especially for men, is revealed.

Pay settlements in manufacturing industry edged up last month, the Confederation of British Industry said yesterday. The average rose to 2.6 per cent in the three months ending in January compared with 2.2 per cent in the previous three months.

Part-time trend, page 27



What goes up must come down: Chancellor Kenneth Clarke discovers the laws of gravity as he receives a portrait of Matthew Bramley to celebrate National Bramley Apple Week

## British Steel faces EC fine

FROM JAMES LANDALE  
IN BRUSSELS

THE European Commission will today impose large fines on British Steel and 16 other European steel producers for running a price-fixing and market-sharing cartel in the 1980s. Commission officials are thought to have demanded that the companies pay at least £80 million. British Steel is believed to face a £10 million fine.

British Steel said it would make no formal response until the fines were announced, but the company is known to be prepared to fight the decision through the European Court of Justice.

The commission announced the fines only hours after senior EC officials met European steel chiefs to try to persuade them to agree production cuts. Steel industry sources said the commission was clearly using the threat of fines to coerce producers into making the cuts. "It's pure blackmail," one source said.

The decision to impose fines comes after a long investigation into the cartel, beginning with dawn raids on the companies' offices in January 1991.

The companies, which include Luxembourg's Arbed, France's Unimetal, Belgium's Cockerill-Sambre and Germany's Thyssen, Krupp-Hoesch and Saarstahl, are accused of fixing prices of heavy steel section and beams. Ferrodin and Sweden's Fundia Norske are also set to be fined.

Under EC law, the commission can fine each company up to 10 per cent of the turnover of its steel beams business for violating Article 65 of the European Coal and Steel Community Treaty. This bans price-fixing, market-sharing and uncompetitive information-sharing.

Plan in ruins, page 24  
Pennington, page 25

BUSINESS EDITOR  
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS  
TODAY

BLUE SKIES



Improving economies  
in America and Britain  
and more first class  
passengers helped  
British Airways in the  
third quarter  
Page 25, Tempus 27

IN THE PINK

Readers of *The Times*  
have an opportunity  
today to vote for the  
company of the year.  
Coupon and shortlist:  
Page 24

BLACK HOLE



The damaging strike at  
Peabody coal in  
America depressed  
Hanson's first quarter  
figures  
Page 24, Tempus 27

GREEN LIGHT

The Bank of England  
estimates that the  
Taurus replacement  
will cost between £20  
million and £30 million  
Page 24

## Names' law bills may total £100m

By SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

LITIGATING Lloyd's names could face legal bills totalling more than £100 million as a result of Monday's decision to turn down the £900 million Lloyd's settlement offer and to proceed with court action.

More than 30 action groups plan legal actions and lawyers put the average cost of most of these cases at £3 million. More complex cases could cost four times as much.

Michael Deeny, chairman of the Gooda Walker Action Group, said last month that Wilde Sapte, the group's solicitors, had estimated that fees to be paid would reach £3 million. But he said if the action group lost the case, that figure could rise to £10 million, as names would have to bear the defendants' costs.

Lawyers for errors and omissions underwriters, insurers to Lloyd's agents, have already notched up legal fees of more than £10 million. Don Carey, who acts for the E&O insurers, said: "The most expensive stage is still to come." It may be that not all cases will

reach court, however. The costs of a case can roughly be split 50:50 between pre-trial preparation and the case itself. The process of discovery, involving the swapping of information by both sides, is extremely costly.

Law firms' fees vary but the average for a senior partner is about £250 an hour — £1,500 a day — and for a junior partner, £220 an hour.

Case costs vary, depending on the length of the hearing and the cost of any expert witnesses. Each action group will have to retain a QC, at an average cost of £65,000, and junior counsel at half that rate. These are paid daily "refreshers" rates of about £2,000 and £1,000 respectively. Then there are solicitors' costs, at an hourly rate of about £180.

During a hearing, these legal experts will be needed for six hours a day, four days a week. Less complex cases may last a month; more complex ones, such as Feltrim and Gooda Walker, could last three months.

## SIB seeks discussion on rules

THE Securities and Investments Board has published a discussion paper on regulation policy seeking firm rules against a background of changes in equity and derivative markets (Philip Pangalos writes).

Andrew Large, chairman, said it wanted to strengthen arrangements for dealing with market abuse and misconduct. The SIB says the growing number and diversity of trading services required the development of cross-market approaches to transparency, trade reporting and surveillance.

Technology and a more open and competitive environment have brought many changes. We need to be aware that wherever we put down the regulatory goal posts is going to affect people and influence the market. We want to make sure that wherever we put those goal posts down is sensible," he said.

Pennington, page 25

## Viacom win ends Paramount saga

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

THE five-month takeover battle for Paramount Communications ended yesterday as almost 75 per cent of its shareholders accepted a \$9.75 billion cash and shares offer from Viacom, the cable television programme maker that owns MTV and is headed by Sumner Redstone, 70.

A rival bid from QVC Network, headed by Barry Diller, 52, was withdrawn yesterday as the television home shopping company conceded defeat. QVC said: "They won, we lost. Next."

The combined Viacom-Paramount-Blockbuster Entertainment group will challenge Time Warner as the world's largest entertainment company, with sales of \$12 billion. Paramount-Viacom will be one of the big six Hollywood studios, among the world's largest publishers, own 35 cable, television and radio stations, six theme parks, and 1,927 cinemas.

Mr Redstone said yesterday: "We remain resolute in our intentions and unwaver-

ing in our conviction that the combination of Viacom, Paramount and Blockbuster will create a global media powerhouse in the entertainment industry. Today is only the beginning."

But analysts are already forecasting that some of those assets will have to be sold to pare \$10.6 billion of debt incurred in connection with the takeover, \$3.6 billion of which falls due within a year.

The final price — valuations fluctuate with the movements of share prices — came out at \$80.61 a share or \$9.75 billion, \$1.5 billion more than Viacom's first agreed bid for Paramount, which it announced on last September.

The final price could rise a further \$1 billion depending on the performance of Viacom's B shares, which need to rise 74 per cent over the next three years to avert the additional payment. It was this guarantee that analysts say tipped the balance in Viacom's favour.

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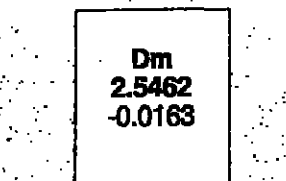

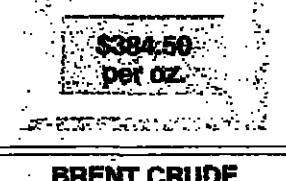
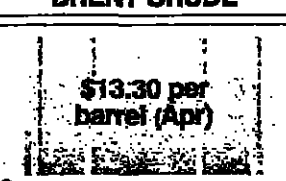
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LONDON CLOSING PRICES		MARKETS IN DETAIL PAGE 26, SHARE PRICES PAGE 31		



# EC plan to revamp steel industry in ruins

FROM JAMES LANDALE  
IN BRUSSELS

THE decision by the European Commission to impose fines today on British Steel and 16 other European steel producers for operating a cartel in the late 1980s comes as its plan to restructure the industry lies in tatters.

Karel Van Miert, the EC competition commissioner, told the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland this month that the plan had failed because Europe's unsubsidised steel producers had not offered to make a single cut in production to

reduce overcapacity. "We cannot deliver the goods," he said.

The commission's plan seeks to cut production, mainly in strip steel, by 30 million tonnes and to shed 30,000 jobs. The overall aim is to raise prices and increase revenue.

Last December, the commission secured production cuts of 5.5 million tonnes from German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish state-owned steel producers, in return for final, one-off state aids worth £5.2 billion to help their restructuring plans. These cuts were supposed to encourage the unsubsidised companies, including British Steel, to make voluntary cuts

of about 10.5 million tonnes or to contribute to a compensation fund for companies making the cuts.

However, these producers have not offered to make cuts, arguing that December's subsidies still represent an unfair distortion of the market. British Steel, one of Europe's most efficient steel companies, has not received any state aid since 1985, three years before it was privatised.

Last night Martin Bangemann, the EC industry commissioner, and Mr Van Miert met steel industry chiefs, including Brian Moffat, chairman of British Steel, over dinner in Brussels to repeat their demands for cuts.

Though the fines are likely to be high, the commission has never imposed the maximum penalty of 10 per cent of turnover. The largest fine was £57.7 million in 1991 on Tetrapak, a Swiss-Swedish packaging company, for abuse of its dominant position in the market.

The 17 steel companies have faced various charges, from price fixing to market sharing and illegal information exchange, since commission officials carried out dawn raids to gather documents in 1991. Steel producers claim that the commission failed to indicate how they could move from a legal cartel — which

existed between 1980 and 1988 to resolve a similar problem of overcapacity — back to an open market.

The commission agreed to allow sharing of information and markets to help the industry through the slump. However, when the market picked up, the cartel was not closed down. "It was not feasible to go back to the open market overnight," an industry source said. However, commission sources were, last night, unrepentant, saying that the cartel broke EC law and must face the consequences.

Pennington, page 25

## Brent oil trades near low

By Our City Staff

THE world benchmark Brent blend of crude oil traded as low as \$13.26 per barrel in London yesterday, just seven cents better than the five-year low of \$13.20 at which the contract ended last year.

An attempt to rally marked the early weeks of this year, helped by an Arctic winter in the United States, which boosted demand for heating fuel. But warmer weather in America is now on the way, while the market is starting to look forward to the April-June quarter of the year when oil demand takes a seasonal dip.

Brokers say there are doubts about whether the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries will reach an agreement to cut output quotas when it holds its next meeting on March 25.

Lee Raymond, chairman of Exxon Corporation, told an industry lunch in London yesterday that, despite "stagnant" oil demand, the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries "seems unwilling or unable to curb production enough to allow prices to recover to reasonable levels".

Oil prices are now about \$4 per barrel lower than the level recorded a year ago.

Prices may weaken further if statistics from the American Petroleum Institute this week fail to show a solid winter draw on American stocks of oil.

## American coal strike hits Hanson profits

By Martin Waller, Deputy City Editor

THE damaging strike at the Peabody coal operations in America depressed first-quarter profits at Hanson, the Anglo-American industrial conglomerate, although the dividend is held at last year's level.

Pre-tax profits for the three months to December 31 fell from £236 million to £173 million, after the £67 million cost of the Peabody stoppage, which ended in December.

Hanson has declared a 2.85p dividend, unchanged from last time, although the payment is not covered by earnings per share that declined by 1.0p to 2.5p.

Pre-tax profits included a £68 million exceptional gain, mainly from sales, such as the Axelson oil services operation and various small British companies, against £20 million last time. But Hanson's soaring interest bill, which Lord Hanson, the chairman, has forecast will cost an extra £275 million this financial year, meant interest payments of £58 million in the first three months compared with earnings of £29 million last time.

Derek Bonham, chief executive, said the £87 million swing on interest payments was due to the narrowing of sterling/dollar interest spreads, shorter deposit maturities and the cost of acquisitions, which totalled £2.9 billion.

Before exceptional items and interest, profits from Hanson during the first quarter were £24 million lower at £163 million. This included a £25 million first-time contribution from Quantum, bought in

September for \$3.2 billion. Hanson said excluding the effects of the strike, operating profits would have been £43 million higher at £230 million.

The Peabody coal strike continued throughout most of 1993 before final settlement with the unions in December and cost Hanson a total of £125 million in the last financial year. Further costs will spill over into the second quarter of this year, and will include the cost of repairs to equipment sabotaged during the stoppage, said Martin Taylor, a vice-chairman at Hanson, bringing the total cost in the current financial year to £80 million.

Lord Hanson said this year had started well, with the first contribution from Quantum, whose integration was on track. Analysts expect Quantum to benefit from the freezing weather in America, which will stimulate sales of propane, while Hanson's construction activities there would be boosted by the estimated \$8 billion cost of the Californian earthquake.

Debt reduction would continue with further disposals, including the separate flotations of the respective Beazer Homes businesses in the US and Britain, said Lord Hanson. A prospectus is due for the British sale next week.

He repeated a claim made at last month's annual meeting: "The industrial sun is beginning to rise both in the UK and US." Hanson shares were unchanged at 283½p.

Tempos, page 27



Good start to new financial year: Lord Hanson

## Owners for Crest sought by Bank

By Our Banking Correspondent

THE Bank of England is seeking prospective owners for Crest, the planned share settlement system that will take the place of the failed Taurus system.

The Bank said yesterday that design work on Crest should be completed before the beginning of May and that if building work was to begin at that time, it was essential that a sufficient number of Crest users had committed themselves to participating in the ownership structure.

It is estimated that the initial cost of the Bank's design work and the two-year building stage will be between £10 million and £12 million. That includes the £5 million to £7 million cost of building the software and is part of the £20 million to £30 million total cost. In theory, Crest should be up and running from May 1996.

The Bank has issued a paper on the ownership of Crest and is seeking discussion with market participants. It said: "Before a decision to build is taken, it will be necessary to judge whether Crest is acceptable to its potential clients."

The Bank will seek commitments from a wide spread of participants to use Crest as well as commitments to take part in ownership.

"Unless there is an adequate degree of support from sufficient participants drawn from all sectors of the equity industry, the Bank will not be prepared to build Crest, or to recommend to government that the necessary secondary legislation be prepared."

The Bank proposes that Crest should be owned by a separate company, Crestco.

It said the ultimate ownership should be in the form of a widely-based, principally private sector consortium. There should be a minimum shareholding of £50,000, a maximum 10 per cent holding by an single company or group, and a ceiling of a 30 per cent stake held by any sectoral group such as market makers or investing institutions.

## Government urged to replace Peps and Tensas by new plan

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

THE Government's current regime for taxing savings satisfies none of the requirements for "neutrality, fairness and transparency", according to a report from the Institute for Fiscal Studies.

The institute is recommending the Government stop taxing gains on savings made from taxed earnings and introduce a new savings plan, to replace existing personal equity plans and tax exempt special savings accounts, under which all income and gains are exempt from tax.

In its report, *Setting Savings Free*, the institute finds there are "two enduring features of savings taxation: the inherent administrative difficulty of taxing savings satis-

factorily, and the instinctive desire to encourage savings and investment in the economy by relieving it from tax."

The institute said its proposals would simplify the tax system and treat all forms of savings equally. It said the present system "distorts savings and investment decisions across the economy and unduly penalises the less well-off and the un- or ill-advised."

Malcolm Gamble, a tax partner with Linklaters & Paines, the City solicitor, and chairman of the institute's working party, said the net cost to the Government of implementing the proposals would be £3.5 billion.

The institute has proposed the creation of a new Extended

Personal Equity Plan, or Expep account. Savings could be invested in all forms of financial assets, from shares and securities to futures and options.

Expep savings would also include cash deposits. No tax relief would be given for amounts in the accounts, income and capital gains earned on savings would be exempt from tax, withdrawals could be made at any time without charge, and there would be a fixed limit for annual contributions of about £12,000.

The scheme would also allow any amount to be saved in an Expep account if the savings came from taxed sources.

Tax codes, page 2



Grant: margins under pressure

ARGYLL, the Safeway stores group, yesterday underlined the pressures that face food retailers, claiming that no winners had emerged from the recent sharp increase in price competition.

Sir Alistair Grant, the chairman of Argyll, said: "Sainsbury's might have stolen a march with the launch of its November 'essential for essentials' campaign but everyone has been fighting the pricing battle resolutely and as a result there have been no winners."

Instead, Argyll revealed that its gross margins had come under increased pressure. That, coupled with negligible price inflation in recent months, prompted Sir Alistair to warn shareholders that profits for the year to April 2 were expected to fall short of the

£417 million achieved last time. This is before the effect of a change in depreciation policy, which was announced last December and is expected to add £40 million to the depreciation bill.

Philip Dorgan, an analyst at Goldman Sachs, cut his profit forecast for the year by £9 million, to £365 million. Last summer the City was forecasting profits of about £455 million.

Argyll revealed a 0.4 per cent fall in sales from existing Safeway stores in the 16 weeks to February 5. This was more than offset by an 11.1 per cent rise in sales from new stores, after allowing for closures.

The City was encouraged by Argyll's announcement that it intended to pay shareholders a final dividend of 7.75p,

making a total for the year of 11.5p, compared with 10.9p last time. Initially, the shares rose 4p, to 265p, but they ended the day's trading 3p down, at 258p.

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## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### 'Real improvement' in construction orders

NEW construction orders in the final three months of 1993 were 34 per cent higher than the same period a year earlier and orders for last year as a whole were 14 per cent higher than in 1992 in cash terms, with all sectors showing some improvement. The volume of orders for private housing, infrastructure and private industrial contracts all rose by more than 10 per cent. Tony Baldry, construction minister, said: "There are signs of real improvement throughout the construction industry. The fall in output has halted, with the volume of work still about one-sixth higher than it was in the mid-1980s. New orders are enjoying their best period of growth for years."

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors said the latest figures were encouraging but the large jump in new orders "shows just how low workload levels were in December 1992". It also gave warning that signs of a gradual pick-up, particularly in the private house-building sector, could be marred by the impact of tax rises from April on consumer confidence. The Royal Institution said the improvement in orders for industrial work was encouraging but early indications last summer of a recovery in the commercial sector had failed to materialise.

### Canal Plus reshuffle

THE founder of Canal Plus, France's pay-television channel, will propose his deputy succeeds him in the post he left on Monday. *Le Monde*, the daily newspaper, yesterday reported that Andre Rousselet intends to propose to the board of Canal Plus that his successor be Pierre Lescure, the station's director-general. Most of Canal Plus' programming is scrambled. Viewers pay a monthly fee for a decoder box to connect to their televisions. It specialises in broadcasting movies and major sports events.

### Boost for Citicorp

CITICORP's memorandum of understanding, imposed by regulators concerned by the bank's financial position, was lifted yesterday by federal regulators. A spokesman said the regulators had met with Citicorp's board at its regular board meeting and told the US's largest banking company that the regulatory reprimand had been lifted. Analysts believe the move heralds the reinstatement of dividend payments. Citicorp has adopted an aggressive recovery plan in recent years after huge losses over property loans.

### Development site sold

EMBASSY Property Group, the property developer, and Five Oaks Investments, the property investor and developer, have agreed to sell their joint development site at Edmund Street in Birmingham city centre for £4.25 million. The site, which has planning permission for a multi-storey office development, has been acquired by Axa Equity & Law Investment Managers. Embassy's share of the net proceeds from the sale amounts to £1.92 million, compared with a book value of £1.16 million at March 31, 1993.

### Welsh miners job fears

MINERS at Tower colliery, the last surviving mine in South Wales, fear 50 more job losses. NUM officials were told yesterday of a likely 30 per cent demand drop from Aberthaw power station in South Glamorgan, its main customer. British Coal said: "Clearly we need to consider what action to take following reduced demand from Aberthaw." In the last round of redundancies about 150 jobs were shed at Tower bringing the workforce to about 240 men.

### CRSG property deals

CONRAD Riblat Sinclair Goldsmith, the quoted surveying firm, is raising £24 million to buy two London office buildings. CRSG is buying 9 Marylebone Lane, valued at £10.5 million, and is acquiring St Michael's House, in the City, an £11.5 million property. CRSG yesterday announced interim profits of £609,000 for the six months to November 30 (loss of £265,000). The company is not paying an interim dividend, but expects to pay a final dividend of not less than 0.33p per share.

### Girobank staff to strike

WORKERS at Girobank will stage a 24-hour strike today in protest at a 1.5 per cent pay offer. The bank's main processing centre at Bootle, near Liverpool, and regional offices at Ashford in Kent, Belfast, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Leeds and Wigan will be picketed by members of the National Communications Union. "Members will support the union", predicted Robby Ayres, union secretary. "They are completely disillusioned." The bank made a profit of £64 million in the 1992/93 financial year.

### New Rothschild trust

ROTHSCHILD Asset Management is to launch a new UK-listed investment trust, International Biotechnology Trust, via a placing and offer of shares in April, sponsored by Robert Fleming, the broker. It is estimated there are 1,400 biotechnology companies worldwide, of which more than 250 are quoted. Jeremy Cook, a Rothschild director, said: "The final few years before the launch of a product often require the highest development expenditure and hence there are several opportunities for investment in this area."

### Seaboard cuts prices

SEABOARD, the regional electricity distributor serving the South East, is cutting prices to all its non-franchise business customers that have already signed contracts for supplies to start on April 1. The company said the price reduction of 0.1 pence per kilowatt hour is a direct result of the agreement announced last Friday between Professor Littlechild, the director general of electricity supply, and the two large generators, National Power and PowerGen. Seaboard said several hundred customers, large and small, would gain.

## Argyll warns of 'no winners' in store wars

By Sarah Bagnall

ARGYLL, the Safeway stores group, yesterday underlined the pressures that face food retailers, claiming that no winners had emerged from the recent sharp increase in price competition.

Sir Alistair Grant, the chairman of Argyll, said: "Sainsbury's might have stolen a march with the launch of its November 'essential for essentials' campaign but everyone has been fighting the pricing battle resolutely and as a result there have been no winners."

Instead, Argyll revealed that its gross margins had come under increased pressure. That, coupled with negligible price inflation in recent months, prompted Sir Alistair to warn shareholders that profits for the year to April 2 were expected to fall short of the

£417 million achieved last time. This is before the effect of a change in depreciation policy, which was announced last December and is expected to add £40 million to the depreciation bill.

Philip Dorgan, an analyst at Goldman Sachs, cut his profit forecast for the year by £9 million, to £365 million. Last summer the City was forecasting profits of about £455 million.

Argyll revealed a 0.4 per cent fall in sales from existing Safeway stores in the 16 weeks to February 5. This was more than offset by an 11.1 per cent rise in sales from new stores, after allowing for closures.

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making a total for the year of 11.5p, compared with 10.9p last time. Initially, the shares rose 4p, to 265p, but they ended the day's trading 3p down, at 258p.

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Tempos, page 27

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#### COMPANY OF THE YEAR

- ☐ CIA Group  
☐ EIS Group  
☐ Rotork

#### NEW COMPANY OF THE YEAR

- ☐ Carpetright  
☐ Roxboro Group  
☐ Telspec

#### ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

- ☐ James Frost (Frost Group)  
☐ Max Pearce (Haynes Publishing)  
☐ Digby Morrow (Sidlaw)  
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• Nominations must be received not later than Friday, February 25, 1994.



□ Large focuses on the derivatives □ Brussels targets British Steel □ Mirror, Mirror on the fence

## SIB: enter the inter-regulator

□ **ANDREW Large**, chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, has felled another spiny. Out comes a 60-page discussion paper entitled *Regulation of the United Kingdom Equity Markets*, a relatively minor act of tree destruction compared with last May's 129-page review of *Financial Services Regulation*, the sub title of which was *Making the Two Tier System Work*.

The message is that extensive changes are taking place in London's equity and equity derivatives markets and SIB's paper (a modest word) sets out proposals for "a framework for standards". The intention, inevitably, is to "stimulate debate and seek comment": from the market and regulators alike. Regulators, perceived as a finger drumming species, will, presumably, welcome this time occupying challenge. Market practitioners, ever wary of the cry "timber", may prove less enthusiastic.

Such debate, we learn, will help SIB:

□ Develop explicit standards of market integrity and investor protection for the UK equity market. Good, but then we always hoped this was part of the universal plan.

□ Set standards for the London Stock Exchange and other recognised investment exchanges to

exercise their regulatory functions. Ditto.

□ Ensure appropriate regulation of market service providers. Why not?

□ Clarify the respective regulatory roles of Self-Regulating Organisations and Recognised Investment Exchanges. Hard to overstate the importance of this. After all, if the various juxtapositions of the alphabet responsible for regulation aren't quite sure where the borders lie, it is not inconceivable that a little laxity might creep in. The questions: Who are we? Why are we? Must, most certainly, be answered. Early days, however, bearing in mind that SIB only emerged as a designated agency in the spring of 1987.

□ Respond appropriately to the developing interaction between equity and equity derivatives markets. Once again, swift off the mark. It was back in October that the Bundesbank warned that the growth of derivatives markets could endanger the stability of the world's financial system — an echo of fears expressed by Gerald Corrigan, former president of the New York

Federal Reserve Board, in 1992.

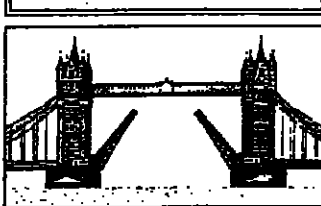
Last, but not least, we learn that SIB is intent on strengthening arrangements to deal with "market abuse and misconduct" — the keystone being to tighten up "transaction surveillance". Enter an "inter-regulator" group to "help achieve a combination of SIB, RIE and SRO regulation". So now we have identified the missing piece in the City's regulatory jigsaw: the inter-regulator. What's more we are promised greater civil/criminal interface between the regulators and the likes of the DTI, the SFO and the Crown Prosecution Service. Eureka.

### Brussels notes and beams

*Why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Matthew 7:3*

□ **BRITISH Steel's** dark suspicions about the timing of the issue of fining European steel producers over an illegal price-fixing cartel for steel beams look

### PENNINGTON



justified. Though it would say nothing publicly yesterday, British Steel's view is clear enough: how strange that the question of an alleged price collusion over steel beams, on which the European Commission reached a judgment as long ago as May 1992, should suddenly be raised in Brussels, just as talks on Europe-wide steel subsidies have reached a crucial stage.

If this is bargaining — and some in British Steel regard it as tantamount to blackmail — then Brussels is usually a touch more subtle. There is really not much of a link between prices in the 1980s for steel beams for the construction industry, and the depth of the present crisis which grips the European steel in-

dustry, and Brussels should not try to forge one.

Fining British Steel and other steel producers over steel beams, as the European Commission may do, is both largely irrelevant to the depth of the European steel crisis and clear evidence why British business still views industrial intervention from Brussels with such concern. If this is what the European Commission can do for industry, then industry is likely to maintain its hostility towards the mandarins.

Europe has a huge overcapacity in steel. Driven by recession, prices are the lowest for 20 years. The response of European industry ministers is to hand over £5 billion in ever greater subsidies to the most inefficient and unprofitable steel companies in Europe.

British Steel, which has already offered to help such companies restructure themselves, is right to feel aggrieved at the European Commission — not just at the peculiarly-timed re-emergence of the beams enquiry, but at its response to the far more significant issue of steel sub-

sidies and overcapacity. After the pain of its own extensive restructuring in the 1980s, British Steel is now one of the lowest-cost steel producers in the world, and the only producer in Europe to be making money.

Instead of trying to hammer one of Europe's best steel companies for bizarre historical irrelevancies, Brussels should be gearing its efforts towards stopping the subsidies to inefficient and unprofitable steelmakers on the Continent.

### Beginning of the endgame

□ The consortium bidding for *The Independent* is either being kind to trees or unkind to its financial advisers. The City had been prompted to expect a formal offer document this week relating to the £55 million bid almost two weeks ago. But the document, now merely waste paper since Tony O'Reilly quipped the consortium's pitch with his near-25 per cent stake, has apparently been put on hold pending some higher numbers.

Newspapermen by their nature like to gossip, and there are so many different parties involved here that the rumours are in danger of crowding out the facts. The much-vaunted higher consortium bid has yet to arrive, and next week looks a more likely date than this. But one possible ultimate structure has started to emerge.

The trading of a 2 per cent-plus stake in Newspaper Publishing, the paper's owner, yesterday suggests the arbitrageurs may be moving in. The consortium, led by Mirror Group Newspapers, will probably have to match the 350p offered by Mr O'Reilly in his famous dawn raid. MGN insists on at least 20 per cent. The O'Reilly stake and the 10 per cent the founders are clinging on to suggests that the two south European shareholders may now have to settle for 22.5 per cent each — which significantly would give them, when combined, less than full control.

The question the management will be asking is whether the revised offer will contain anything like the network of puts and calls that under the original terms could eventually have handed the whole of the business to MGN. This would seem unacceptable, whatever MGN says. In all probability nobody will get all that they want. Look for a compromise.

## BA flies high on recovery of US and UK economies

By PHILIP PANGALOS

**BRITISH Airways** saw third-quarter profits soar more than three-fold as the UK and US economies improved and more passengers travelled premium class. Currency benefits also helped pre-tax profits in the three months to December 31 surge to £65 million, up from £20 million the previous time. In the nine months to the end of December, profits advanced to £300 million, from £247 million.

Sir Colin Marshall, chairman, said the results reflected "an improvement in the economic climate in our two major markets of the United

Kingdom and the United States, recovering premium traffic and the benefit of our profit improvement programme and lower net interest payable".

A total of 6.67 million passengers flew on the airline's scheduled services in the third quarter, an increase of 9.3 per cent, and for the year so far the figure is up by 11.3 per cent, to 22.1 million. Premium traffic continued to recover, growing by 11 per cent in the third quarter, against 2 per cent growth in the second and a 1 per cent dip in the first.

Turnover in the third quarter advanced 11.9 per cent, to £1.14 billion, giving a 13.4 per

cent rise, to £4.83 billion, in the nine months. Third-quarter operating profit rose 38.6 per cent, to £97 million, giving a 31.6 per cent rise, to £441 million, for the nine months.

Sir Colin dismissed recent doubts about the future of the Air Miles programme, in which passengers receive free extra miles after each flight. Many analysts feel such doubts have been exaggerated. Outstanding free miles are understood to account for about 10 per cent of BA's annual surplus capacity.

The full benefits of links with the likes of Qantas and USAir have yet to come through, though the results,

overall, appear to have been better than expected.

Earnings per share for the quarter edged ahead to 5.5p (5.2p), but slipped to 28.4p (28.9p) for the nine months.

Sir Colin said BA expected to achieve its £150 million cost cut target for the year. "We plan further efficiency improvements next year," he said. The reduction would bring the total taken out of BA's costs to £550 million.

Mike Powell, an analyst at NatWest Securities, has pencilled in full-year profits of £307 million (£185 million). BA shares dipped 1p to 473p.

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### Air France tries again to cut costs

**AIR FRANCE** gave hints to employees yesterday of a new cost-cutting plan to replace a programme that sparked a violent strike and forced the chairman to resign.

Union officials reported that a four-page letter from Christian Blanc, the new chief, was sent to the state-owned airline's 42,000 employees, mentioning the need to cut salaries on a "voluntary basis" in exchange for an employee share-ownership plan.

An internal survey has shown that, of 14,000 employees responding, 51 per cent said they would accept salary cuts to save their jobs.

## Saatchi US chief to receive £4m payoff

By MARTIN FLANAGAN

**ROBERT Kennedy**, who quit abruptly last month as head of North American operations at Saatchi & Saatchi, will receive a £4 million payoff.

The news is expected to add fresh fuel to criticism over large "golden goodbyes" for departing company executives. It follows reports that John Cahill, outgoing chairman of British Aerospace, will receive a package exceeding £3 million.

Saatchi & Saatchi would not confirm the amount of any payoff, or reveal how long Mr Kennedy's contract had to run. But a spokesman confirmed the payment would be made over the length of the out-

standing contract, and not as a lump sum windfall. The spokesman added Mr Kennedy received a pay package worth \$800,000 last year.

He said: "Any sum payable is the minimum under the terms of Mr Kennedy's contract." Industry sources believe the matter will be addressed more fully in the company's next report and accounts, although there is no legal obligation because Mr Kennedy was not a board member.

Mr Kennedy, who had been with the agency 33 years, but chief executive of Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising North America for only one year,

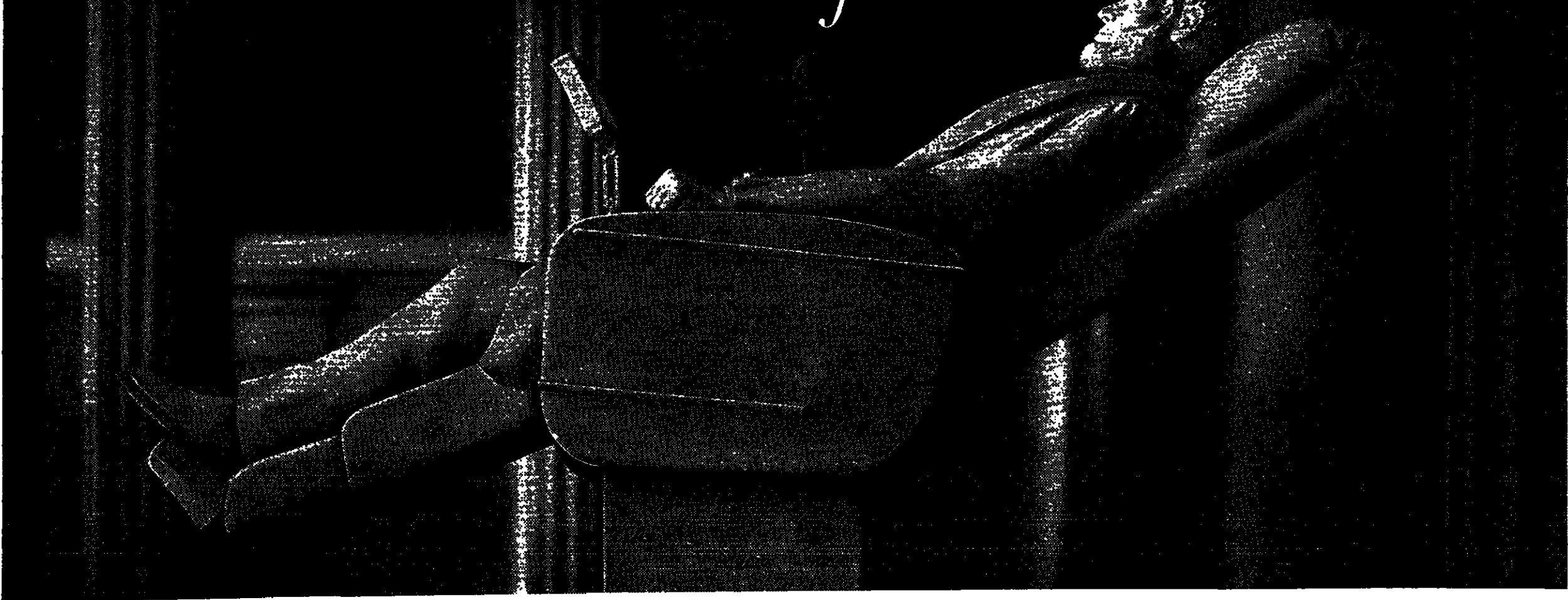
said he wanted to spend more time with his family.

However, it was widely speculated he was at odds on policy with Charles Scott, who succeeded Robert Louis-Dreyfus as chief executive of the holding company. It is believed Mr Scott is determined to improve the agency's performance in North America, now accounting for 42 per cent of group revenues.

A revamp of the Stateside agencies to win more business is thought to be high on Mr Scott's agenda, along with a knife taken to costs. One large client Saatchi recently lost in the States was Helene Curtis, the cosmetics firm.

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# More men do 'women's work' as part-time trend takes hold

Analysis by *The Times* suggests that much of the decline in unemployment can be credited to part-time jobs.  
Philip Bassett reports

Although the job is part-time, it helps to keep meals on the table and the clothes on the children — and at the moment there are so many people unemployed they can do what they want. The speaker is a woman part-timer in her early thirties in Berkshire. "You can lose your job at any time and they can keep your wages low because there are so many unemployed to take your place." This is a 37-year-old female part-timer in Essex, explaining why she is worried about losing her job: "Because my hours have been cut in half since Christmas. It looks like our company is going out of business — we are losing customers left, right and centre."

These women, interviewed by the polling organisation MORI, are talking about the new reality of work in Britain — work that, as a special computer analysis by *The Times* shows today may be both increasingly the norm for employment, and a key factor behind the fall in unemployment over the past year.

David Hunt, the Employment Secretary, who will announce the latest unemployment figures today, is keen to emphasise the new flexibility in the UK labour market. He sees it as the explanation behind the marked drop in the number of people out of work over the past 12 months from its peak of exactly a year ago, when unadjusted it officially breached the 3 million mark.

But an analysis of the latest available government figures for employees in work in Britain suggests that for the four quarters to September last year, a sharp rise in part-time working may be a crucial and previously largely overlooked element in the fall in the number of people out of work.

Two points first: unemployment is falling, and employment is rising. Their changes almost exactly cancel each other out over the period — unemployment down by 66,500, employment up by 64,931. Men are doing better than women: male unemployment is down by 60,300, women's by 6,200. But male employment is also down, by 34,400, while employment for women is up, by 99,331.

How can that be? The key to the answer is part-time work. Full-time jobs are still plummeting — down by 138,656 overall, with 108,461 full-time jobs for men gone and 30,104 for women. At the same time, part-time employment has soared — up 203,496 overall. While numerically, women — who make up four-fifths of the part-time workforce — saw the biggest rise at 129,435, in terms of the change, the increase in male part-time work of 74,061 was much sharper — 6.6 compared to 2.8 per cent.

Such attention has been given to the shift to part-time working has been focused on the service sector, and especially on retailing, with organisations such as Burton and Sock Shop switching full-time staff into part-time jobs. Part-time working in the service sector, where it makes up 35 per cent of the workforce, dominates that in the much smaller manufacturing sector, where it is only 8 per cent of the total.

Over the past year, too, it has been in the service sector where employment has grown — up by 3.9 per cent, compared with less than 0.1 per cent in manufacturing. Many more men are taking service sector jobs — full-time work for men in the service sector is up by 27,100. But it is manufacturing that has seen the sharpest proportional rises in part-time work. In the service



Burton is just one company in the retail sector that has switched full-time members of staff into part-time jobs

sector, female part-time work is up by only 0.2 per cent, and that for men by 0.8 per cent. But in manufacturing, the rises for women are 3.9 per cent and for men a large 17.5 per cent. Within those broad sector divides, the tables — based on previously unpublished government data — show the largest proportional rise in part-time work for men and women.

Two factors are significant in the Top 10: all the areas with the highest proportional rises are in manufacturing, rather than the service sector, and the marked emphasis on electrical and electronic work is wholly in line with other evidence, such as that from the EEF engineering employers that suggests this has been and will be the principal growth area for manufacturing in the economy.

Robbie Gilbert, employment affairs director at the CBI, which held private talks with the Department of Employment this week on the current state of the United Kingdom labour market in advance of today's figures, says that men may now be moving into jobs which, say, ten years ago, they would have considered unacceptable manufacturing, services, "women's" work: "Perhaps they think it's the only possibility for them."

A regional analysis by *The Times* of part-time and full-time working seems to support this idea of attitudinal, even cultural, change. In the South East, for instance, it is only among part-time male employees where jobs are rising — up by 2 per cent against an overall fall of 0.7 per cent across the region. In the South West, where employment is up overall — by 46,000 — male part-timers again show the sharpest increase, at 5.7 per cent.

In areas that have seen high unemployment for a long time — not just in

this recession — such as the North West, the North and Yorkshire and Humberside, part-time working among men is showing marked increases, with the last area seeing the highest proportional rise at 6.5 per cent over the year.

In areas which have been only hit hard by unemployment more recently, such as the East and West Midlands, and those either hit less hard or where traditional "male" values about jobs might still apply more strongly, such as Wales and Scotland, there has been no increase, or even in Scotland's case a fall, in men's part-time work.

What isn't yet clear from these figures is whether men are yet taking jobs traditionally seen as "women's" work. Part-time female working is numerically higher in all regions than male part-time employment, but equal only in Wales and Scotland has part-time working increased at a faster pace than that for men in the last year.

Such a shift is not wholly new. An analysis of employment figures across the whole of this recession shows male part-time working up by a massive 25 per cent, or more than 240,000, while female part-timers are up by less than 4 per cent. Full-time work for men is down by 1.4 million, and for women by more than 430,000.

What is new is the speed of the change in the last year, as the economy recovers and unemployment has fallen. This is having some significant spin-off effects.

The reason, for instance, for the continuing slow decline in earnings increases in the service sector — new figures will again be published today — may not just be the impact of the Government's public sector pay policies, but the increased impact from growing numbers of part-timers, men

and women: part-timers do not just tend to be paid less, with lower rises, than full-timers, but proportionately less too.

Employers talk about "flexibility", and matching labour to demand more closely in explaining why part-time work is attractive to them. But they are attracted, too, by the cheapness of part-timers, whose non-wage employment costs are lower.

Part-timers, for instance, working fewer than 15 hours a week, or earning less than £56, do not have to be covered for National Insurance. Employees working fewer than 16 hours a week do not qualify for employment protection or for any statutory benefits such as redundancy pay and maternity benefit.

Joanna Howard, of the Roffey Park Management Institute, who is undertaking a study of part-time working, says that employers may be underestimating the burden of administering part-timers — the management cost of manoeuvring complicated rotas, for instance, or ensuring staff availability, or training part-time staff who may, through Saturday working in a shop, for instance, be dealing directly with customers at the business' peak selling point of the week.

Ministers emphasise that most people work part-time because they want to, because it fits better into their lives. Evidence from the Government's most recent Labour Force Survey tends to bear this out, showing that only 13.5 per cent of those working part-time said this was because they could not find a full-time job — although the OECD, in its forthcoming large-scale jobs and unemployment study, says that as many as 13 million people in the developed countries have either given up looking for work or "unwillingly accepted" a part-time job.

What is clear is that the rise in part-time working looks set to continue. David Kern, chief economist at National Westminster Bank, says that part-time employment will be the only principal source of new jobs over the next five years.

That may continue to help the unemployment figures, increase labour flexibility and improve Britain's world economic competitiveness. Whether that makes women working part-time in Berkshire, Essex and elsewhere feel more secure about their jobs is rather more open to doubt.

## PART-TIME WORK: TOP TEN SECTORS

Largest Percentage employment increases

- | MEN                                    | WOMEN                           |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1 Industrial Equipment Engineering     | 1 Instrument                    |
| 2 Clothing                             | 2 Electronic Equipment          |
| 3 Telecommunications Equipment         | 3 Drink & Tobacco               |
| 4 Electrical Engineering Manufacturing | 4 Motor                         |
| 5 Footwear and Clothing                | 5 Metal Manufacturing           |
| 6 Drink & Tobacco                      | 6 Water Supply                  |
| 7 Metal Manufacturing                  | 7 Household Textile-making      |
| 8 Food                                 | 8 Furniture Manufacturing       |
| 9 Electronic Equipment Engineering     | 9 Electrical                    |
| 10 Basic Electrical Equipment          | 10 Telecommunications Equipment |

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Gummer feels a Yorkshire blast

JUST to prove how deep the recession has driven nails into profit margins, the Chartered Institute of Building concedes that its annual dinner held last night at the Guildhall might well have been the last in "white tie and tails". While many members own dinner suits, not many have tails in their wardrobe, and the institute has taken on board the mutterings of many members that the cost of hiring tails make such grand occasions rather expensive evenings. It will also have been a night to remember as the gathered 500 heard Environment Secretary John Gummer give the keynote address. On behalf of the guests, it fell to Sir Bernard Ingham, Baroness Thatcher's former press secretary, to reply. Gummer has previously admitted the environment will be a much more important issue at the next election than it was at the last. And Sir Bernard is on record as having observed "He is dead right — I can assure him he will be

crucified, as they say, if he doesn't change tack over it, and I shall personally hammer in the nails". The edge to last night's dinner lies in controversial plans for power-generating wind farms in breezy places including Ingham's beloved Yorkshire Dales. And who has the job of approving wind farm applications? One John Gummer.

### Calling engineers

THE sudden sweeping away last year of two of Sweden's

long-standing corporate visionaries — Petr Gyllenhammar, former head of Volvo, and Jan Carlzon, ex-boss of SAS, — was read in many quarters as heralding a new dawn in Swedish corporate history. Finally, it was widely claimed, the far-sighted strategists were succumbing to the short-sighted bean counters. Was this the product of Swedish recession, deregulation, or some natural progression towards the short-termism so often associated with our own financial markets? Lars Ram-

qvist, president and chief executive of Ericsson, the highly profitable telecommunications systems group with enormous R&D spending, rejects any suggestion that the accountants are taking over. From the Carlton Terrace halls of the Royal Society, where he delivered the 1994 UK Innovation Lecture, Ramqvist yesterday made clear he believes engineers are taking over in Sweden — not accountants. A PhD in solid state physics and chemistry, and member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineers, Ramqvist pointed out that Jan Stenberg, his number two man at Ericsson, has been picked to head SAS. Given that engineer-led Ericsson was able to more than double pre-tax profits to Kr3.1 billion in 1993, perhaps British companies would do well to start seeking chairman-engineers.

### Tucking in

TO Simpson's-in-the-Strand at an unearthly hour yesterday to help Brian Clivaz, general manager, break 300 eggs and a 166-year tradition as

Simpson's opened its doors for breakfast. It was only ten years ago that Simpson's broke another tradition, and allowed women into its ground floor restaurant. First through yesterday's doors to earn their place in history were four burly policemen, then Food Minister Nicholas Soames was sadly absent. Since bacon and eggs are not served from a trolley, there was no need for the traditional carver's tip. Breakfast freaks, be ready. While the two menus — the Great British Breakfast at £8.50, and the Ten Deadly Sins at £10 — will best suit healthy appetites, strong stomachs are undoubtedly needed for the side-dishes. These include "Pig's nose with parsley and onion sauce", at £3.50.

From the latest circular from Canadian brokers Yorkton Securities: "That money talks, I'll not deny, I heard it once. It said, 'Goodbye'." — Richard Armour.

COLIN CAMPBELL

## TEMPUS

### Hanson uncovered

WATCHING Hanson plundering its reserves to pay an uncovered dividend, even just for the first quarter, is like seeing the Queen sporting a Mohican haircut. The group's name has been synonymous with shareholder value for so long that the very idea of it suffering a 29 per cent fall in earnings per share, let alone paying an uncovered dividend feels like treason.

Admittedly, the group's profits have been laid low by a combination of costs that are unlikely to be repeated. The heaviest cost of the Peabody strike fell in the first quarter as well as the worst of the interest rate swing, and the two cost £154 million in total. It is now clear why Derek Bonham, the chief executive, was so keen to crack on with a disposal programme. Without the exceptional £68 million profit from disposals, the group's

profitability would have looked even less rosy. There is scope for optimism in the figures, even if one disregards the group's bombastic remarks that the industrial sun is rising in Britain and America. Underlying revenues rose almost 8 per cent after discounting the contribution from Quantum, and operating profits would have been well ahead without the one-off cost of the strike. Hanson's aggregates businesses are beginning to see rising demand from the American construction, even though other businesses remain depressed.

Hanson's largest burden remains its debts. These will fall by £400 million next month, with the flotation of Beazer Homes, but they are still likely to be more than £3 billion. Hanson needs to find more disposals to give itself more room for manoeuvre as well as bring relief to its profit and loss account.

### British Airways

THE faith the market has shown in British Airways is finally beginning to be rewarded. The third-quarter figures showed a series of positive features that suggest that the world's most profitable airline is pulling out of the recession in good shape.

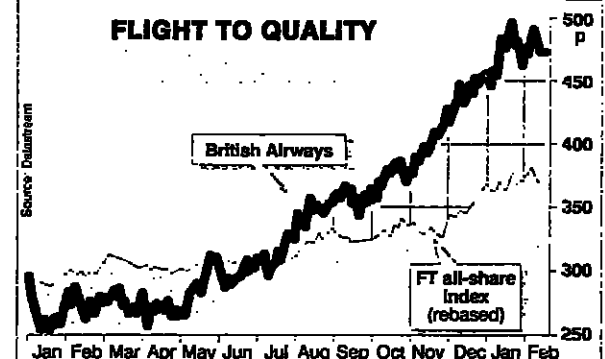
One heartening figure was that the passenger loading in the quarter was 67.4 per cent, the same as a year ago. BA has been struggling all year to fill its new planes and new routes and until now the load factor has been falling. This has been particularly true in first and business class, but well-heeled passengers are returning to the front of the aircraft.

The future for BA looks bright. In the past year it has profitably increased capacity by more than a tenth, in spite of the worldwide recession.

In the coming years that expansion rate will halve, just as demand for airline seats is rising. Profits of £300 million this year could well rise to £420 million next.

That should translate into higher loads, a stable yield and even higher fares if the competition from other airlines slackens slightly. But BA cannot afford to go soft on

cost control simply because the trading environment is growing easier. BA has only come this far because Sir Colin Marshall has chopped out large lumps of expenses. But pressure on prices will not relax in the airline industry for long. The group needs to set similar targets for future years to keep its place in investors' affections.



### Argyll

ARGYLL's rating has taken such a pasting in the general rout of the food retailing sector that there was little point in marking down its shares on the back of yesterday's trading statement. The 16-week turnover figures made depressing reading, with a 0.4 per cent fall in revenue from existing stores and expectations that the average spend may be down by up to 1 per cent. Moreover, discounting will take some £40 million from Argyll's gross margin in the current year, enough to take full-year profits down to £390 million before this year's £40 million hit from depreciation.

But the bears may have overdone their punishment of Argyll. The main supermarkets have held back from further price-cutting in the new year, and Argyll's intention to increase the dividend by 6 per cent is a strong signal that shareholders can look forward to a bigger share of the cash generated by a mature Safeway chain that is building fewer stores. Moreover, Argyll should be able to cut back its cost base

by 1 per cent per annum, enough to generate savings of £75 million in three years, on top of any benefits from a return to food price inflation. Argyll shares are yielding 5.5 per cent on current year dividends, 50 per cent ahead of the market and more than any savings account offers.

### Mersey Docks

THE rebirth of Mersey Docks and Harbour Company owes much to the shedding of a massive workforce and the abolition of the Dock Labour Scheme. By employing a fraction of its former workforce, improving productivity and making use of contract labour, Mersey now achieves a 20 per cent operating margin.

Mersey is a leaner and meaner port manager, but its problem is how to maintain momentum without further cost cuts. Modest traffic growth of 5 per cent is unlikely to do the trick, and poaching business from other ports will cost Mersey points in the margin. Investment in new plant should bring productivity gains, but the likely route is further acquisitions. Mersey's profits this year should

hit £30 million with a full-year's contribution from Mersey, and it is eyeing other trust ports closely. But the political temperature is rising over privatisations and Mersey will be hard-pressed to do a cheap deal.

### Tiphook

THE grim details of Tiphook's financial position beg one question. Why, when faced with such a financial meltdown, have the banks not pulled the plug already?

The sale of the container business may repay much of Tiphook's debt, but it leaves the group with borrowings of £375 million, which it must somehow service from a container and rail truck hire business that made operating losses of £2.4 million in the half-year to October 31. Even if an economic upturn and a management miracle makes that possible, Tiphook still has to find £178 million by the end of the decade to buy new containers it has on order. American shareholders feel understandably peeved and are suing. But the company does not appear to have much more to lose.

## BUSINESS LETTER

### Nuclear power can cover costs

From the Director-General, British Nuclear Industry Forum

Sir, Five years on from the privatisation of the electricity supply industry, the nuclear debate still revolves around "the unknown final cost of decommissioning". Your report (February 4) rightly stated that it was the unknown cost of the industry's liabilities which stopped it from being privatised in 1989. Today things are different.

The final cost of decommissioning is not an unknown factor. The true cost is £18 billion. But as the summer report of the National Audit Office (NAO) on decommissioning states, the actual cost to the industry will be only £5.9 billion. The missing billions will be accrued by earning a real rate of return of 2 per cent per annum, over the many years it takes to decommission nuclear plant.

If the industry is allowed to go for Safestore, which simplifies the engineering involved, these costs come down considerably. Even working on the existing figures the industry is confident, and this was backed up by the NAO's report, that it can raise its decommissioning bill from on-going operations.

The Government has promised the nuclear industry a full review this year. Until that review, the future of the industry is uncertain. The industry is convinced that it can satisfy Government and the public that it is financially viable and indispensable to a sustainable energy policy. Yours faithfully, ROGER HAYES, Director-General, British Nuclear Industry Forum, 22 Buckingham Gate, SW1.

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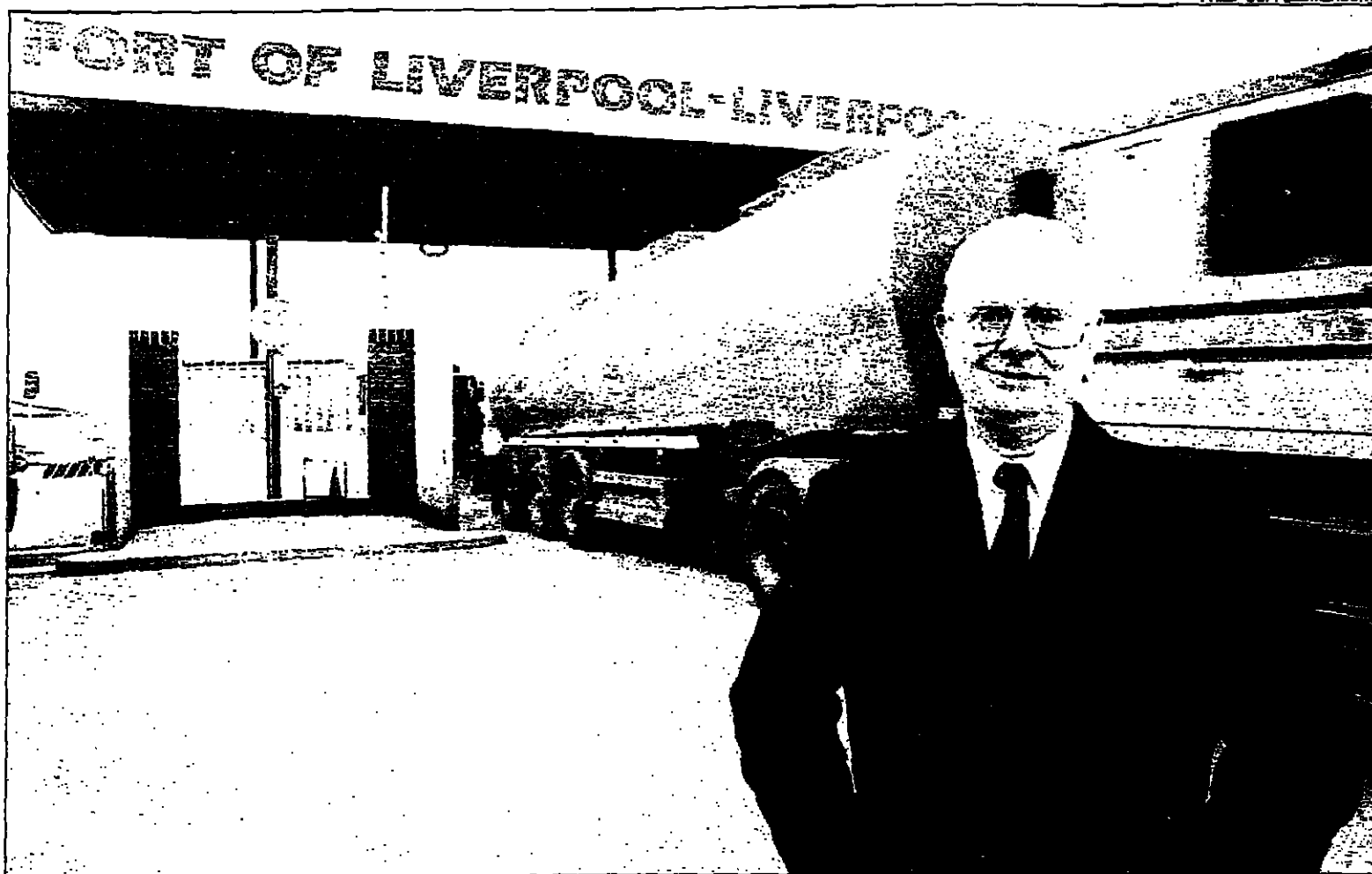
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Looking for productivity gains: Trevor Furlong, chief executive of Mersey Docks and Harbour Company, at the Port of Liverpool

## Medway boosts Mersey

By CARL MORTIMER

MERSEY Docks and Harbour Company received a £1.3 million profit boost from Medway, the privatised trust port acquired in October for £104 million. Medway, which owns the Port of Sheerness, accounted for almost half of Mersey's £12 million increase in turnover to £98.4 million and contributed to a 38 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £20.9 million.

Gordon Waddell, chairman of Mersey Docks, said it would be interested in buying other trust ports, but only at the right price.

Cargo at the Port of Liverpool rose 5 per cent in volume over the previous year to 29 million tonnes.

The 1993 results benefited from £1 million cost savings. Trevor Furlong, chief executive, said future growth would come from tonnage and productivity gains.

Mr Waddell said the company was unlikely to be affected by claims from former employee shareholders of Mersey against KPMG Peat Marwick, the accountancy group, regarding the latter's valuation of Mersey before the sale.

The dividend rises 20 per cent to 9p per share. Earnings per share, adjusted for FRSS, rise 33 per cent to 19.96p.

Tempus, page 27

## Tiphook shares dive as half-time loss worsens

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

SHARES in Tiphook, the troubled container leasing company, lost a quarter of their value at one stage yesterday, as investors contemplated the bleak outlook for the group, which is being kept afloat by its bankers.

Tiphook's interim figures, and an announcement of the long-awaited and vital sale of its container operations to a subsidiary of Transamerica, were released late on Monday night, after the stock market had closed.

The news sent the shares back to 50p yesterday morning, though by the close they had stabilised to 53p, down 14p. Tiphook, which has also announced a boardroom clear-out that will see Robert Montague, the founder, stand-

ing down as chairman but continuing as chief executive, is to get £757 million for the container business.

This is considerably less than the £830 million forecast for the deal last year. In addition, the buyer is holding £44.25 million in escrow to fund any future claims under the purchase agreement.

The interim figures show a pre-tax loss of £179.7 million in the six months to October 31, compared with a £13.7 million loss the previous time, after a raft of write-downs and provisions. There is no dividend.

Tiphook is in various breaches of its banking facilities and much of its £1.1 billion of debt is payable on demand, which would send the group into receivership. The banks

have agreed to defer repayment until March 15, but debts are still rising to meet the group's financial obligations.

The banks have said they will provide fresh facilities beyond that date, subject to the container sale and other conditions. But Tiphook has warned shareholders, who will have to vote on the deal on March 10, that losses are expected in the second half.

The six monthly figures were heavily qualified by the auditors. The group's financial plan depends on an upturn in trading and general economic recovery, a cut in overheads and failure of a legal action brought in the US by disaffected shareholders.



Tempus, page 27

Montague: leaving chair

## Union Discount swings back into black

EMERGENCY reorganisation pulled Union Discount back into profit last year, even though the discount house suffered a £6.7 million loss on the cost of withdrawing from its loss-making term leasing business (see page 15).

Union made pre-tax profits of £4.55 million last year, after

a £16.3 million loss in 1992. The firm has started paying dividends again, with a 3p payment for 1993. Union suffered during the recession: bad debts in its leasing business threatened to undermine its core discount-house business. The company restored its financial position

last year with the sale of Winterford Securities, the smaller company market-maker.

George Blunden, the chairman, said the turnaround was the result of a year's hard work. "We are delighted that having been out in the cold for some little while the Union is

back with businesses that are generating profits," he said.

The Winterford sale produced a £6.5 million profit, covering the costs of closing or selling the term leasing businesses and closing several related interest-rate swaps.

Tempus, page 27

## Maclean Hunter rejects £1.4bn offer

FROM REUTERS IN TORONTO

THE board of Maclean Hunter, the publisher, yesterday said the Rogers Communications £1.4bn share offer, worth \$2.8 billion (£1.4 billion), was "inadequate".

Maclean Hunter also said it was still committed to selling its American cable assets and was examining all options to maximize shareholder value, including the spin-off or sale of Canadian cable assets, the formation of one or more alliances or a recapitalisation.

It believed it had ample debt capacity to finance a "significant" recapitalisation.

Based on a preliminary review and advice, the board believes the Rogers offer is inadequate, Maclean said.

The board has confirmed Goldman Sachs' mandate to sell the company's US cable operations, as a result of a process which began last autumn. The company believes the proceeds of a sale of its US cable operations can be provided directly to its shareholders on a tax-efficient basis.

Maclean believes it could sell the US cable operations for more than the \$1.5 billion value estimated by Rogers in its participation rights sweetener offered to shareholders.

The participating rights contemplated by the Rogers offer do not provide Rogers with a significant incentive to maximise the sale proceeds for the benefit of Maclean Hunter shareholders, the company said.

The board said it was considering a "significant" recapitalisation to deliver cash value to shareholders. The company believes it has ample debt capacity to finance a recapitalisation transaction.

Maclean Hunter said it did not specify the nature of the recapitalisation transaction.

Maclean said it was also considering the sale or spin-off of all or part of its Canadian cable operations and the formation of one or more alliances with third parties.

Last week, Ted Rogers, the Rogers president and chief executive, said the offer was final.

The Rogers offer circumvents the rights plan and attempts to coerce the shareholders and the board of Maclean Hunter to take the very action which the permitted bid mechanism was intended to prevent — that is, accepting an inadequate bid in a short period of time and without the ability to seek other alternatives over a reasonable time frame," said Maclean Hunter.

## Elf Aquitaine offer three times oversubscribed

APPLICATIONS for shares in Elf Aquitaine, the French oil and gas company, have been scaled back after the offer by the French government was heavily oversubscribed. Individual shareholders who requested 30 shares under the A1 priority part of the privatisation will receive at least 12 shares, said Edmond Alphandery, the economy minister.

Under the A1 priority applications, individuals who asked for up to ten shares will receive them, while those who asked for 20 shares will get 11. Investors who requested 30 will get just 12. On Monday, Mr Alphandery said the public offer had been 33.2 million shares at Fr385 a share, which resulted in bids for 98 million shares from 3,096 million applications, making the offer close to three times oversubscribed.

## Pilkington plans float

PILKINGTON plans a partial float of its Australian and New Zealand glass operations. Pilkington Australasia is wholly owned by Pilkington and is the holding company for Pilkington (Australia) and Pilkington (NZ). Under consideration is the float of up to 50 per cent of Pilkington Australasia on the Australian Stock Exchange. Geoff Marshall, chief executive of Pilkington Australasia, said the float would release cash to support international expansion.

## Burlington Group up

BURLINGTON Group, the investment company, has increased pre-tax 1993 profits to £210,000, against £171,000 in 1992. The company said it increased profits from the disposal of listed investments by 91 per cent, and that the company started 1994 with a substantial surplus of market value over the cost of investments. Earnings per share increased to 1.30p from 1.01p and the dividend for the year is 0.6p (0.5p).

## St Modwen advances

ST MODWEN Properties has increased the total dividend by 67 per cent to 1p a share from 0.6p, with a 0.7p final, after a sharp increase in its annual rent roll. In the year to November 30 this rose 29 per cent to £9.7 million, helped by the purchase of two big retail properties at Catford and Hounslow in London. Taxable profits more than doubled to £3.5 million (£1.7 million), with earnings per share up to 2.2p (1.1p), and net assets per share of 39p (35p).

## Armitage lifts dividend

ARMITAGE Brothers, the Nottingham pet foods and pet products manufacturer, is raising its interim dividend to 2.7p (2.6p) a share after reporting a 13.3 per cent advance in first-half profits. Pre-tax profits increased to £810,000 in the 28 weeks to December 12, up from £715,000 last time, on turnover ahead 3.8 per cent to £13.4 million (£12.9 million). Sales growth from new business provided the advance in turnover. Earnings climb to 13.5p (11.9p) a share.

## Bourne End purchases

BOURNE End Properties, the property investment company that recently asked shareholders for £16.3 million to finance expansion, has spent £21 million on buying three office buildings in Cardiff. The properties, which are being sold by Rightmove Property, are Tesco House, Trinity Court and Landore Court, an office block due to be completed in April. Bourne End said the purchases met its policy of trying to maximise capital growth through property investment.

## Howard passes payout

HOWARD Holdings, the construction and plant hire company, has again passed the interim dividend despite returning to profit in the six months to end-October. The company said it would be prudent to delay a dividend until full-year figures, despite pre-tax profits of £37,570, against losses of £197,771 last time. Plant hire was still suffering from recession, but sales were higher. Earnings were 0.15p a share, against losses of 0.75p. The shares rose 4p to 29p.

## Ericsson chief warns against short cuts in R&D investment

By COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

A LONGER view of investment in research and development by financiers is of "utmost importance" for industrial innovation, said Lars Ramqvist, president and chief executive of Ericsson.

His record as head of the world leader in mobile telecommunications suggests investors could be persuaded to show more perseverance with companies investing heavily in new technologies. Delivering the 1994 UK Innovation Lecture at the Royal Society in London yesterday, Mr Ramqvist said Ericsson had invested about 22 per cent of £5 billion annual sales in R&D, partly in its £300 million-a-year British business.

Mr Ramqvist, who lifted the

Swedish group's R&D budget by 50 per cent four years ago and told Wall Street investors to expect "less short-term profits but a brighter future", said there were no short cuts to successful innovation, even though Ericsson actually proved that R&D paid off in the short term. That, however, was not always the case, he said.

Ericsson's move coincided with recession in telecommunications, Mr Ramqvist noted. But Ericsson was today the only company delivering all new digital mobile telephone systems. Despite recession, the company's order intake and sales had grown continuously in the past nine quarters and its market share in mobile telephone systems had grown.

The Ericsson view that personnel is the company's greatest competitive asset is demonstrated at its new microchip plant in Stockholm, where every single employee on production must have a degree. He added a warning that the declining number of students in science and technology would be catastrophic for European industry: "There are absolutely no short cuts to industrial recovery in the short term. The only solution is to start with basic education, encouraging young people to study science, technology and engineering, and to strengthen the quality of higher education and research at university level in collaboration with industry."

## Notice to non-assenting bondholders of Central Independent Television plc

Pursuant to Section 429(4) of the Companies Act 1985 as inserted by Schedule 12 to the Financial Services Act 1986.

A takeover offer (the "Bond Offer") was made on 10th December, 1993 by Hambros Bank Limited on behalf of Carlton Communications Plc (the "Offeror"), for all of the issued and fully paid £5 per cent convertible subordinated bonds due 2008 of Central Independent Television plc (the "Company"). The Offeror is offering to purchase the bonds at a price of £1.05 per £1.00 nominal value of the bonds. The Offeror is offering to purchase the bonds at a price of £1.05 per £1.00 nominal value of the bonds. The Offeror is offering to purchase the bonds at a price of £1.05 per £1.00 nominal value of the bonds.

The Offeror has, within four months of making the Bond Offer, acquired or contracted to acquire not less than nine-tenths in value of the Central convertible bonds to which the Bond Offer relates. The Offeror gives notice that it now intends to exercise its rights under section 429 of the Companies Act 1985 to acquire the convertible bonds "as a going concern" in the Company.

**Bond Offer:**  
The terms of the Bond Offer are:  
For every £5,000 nominal of Central convertible bonds:  
£2,424.27 in cash;  
325 ordinary shares of 5p each in the Offeror ("new Carlton ordinary shares"); and  
2,494 5.5p (net) cumulative convertible preference shares of 5p each in the Offeror ("new Carlton preference shares").

and so in proportion for any other number of Central convertible bonds held.  
Fractions of new Carlton ordinary shares and new Carlton preference shares will not be issued, but will be dealt with in accordance with the terms of the Bond Offer.

**Loan Note Alternative:**  
You may elect to receive Unsecured Loan Notes (1995/99) of the Offeror ("Loan Notes") as consideration for all or part of the cash element of the Bond Offer on the basis of:  
For every £1 in cash receivable £1 nominal of Loan Notes.

The Loan Notes will be issued as fully paid up and integral multiples of £1 nominal, and any fractional entitlements will be disregarded. The terms of the Loan Notes are set out in Part VI of the listing particulars dated 10th December, 1993 and issued by the Offeror in connection with the Ordinary Offer and the Bond Offer.

**Mix and Match Elections:**  
Under the Bond Offer, holders of Central convertible bonds were offered the opportunity under a mix and match facility to make elections to vary the proportions in which they received cash or alternatively Loan Notes, new Carlton ordinary shares and new Carlton preference shares. The original Mix and Match Election closed on 14th January, 1994.

You may however make the Mix and Match Elections under the compulsory acquisition procedure.

(a) Election for new Carlton ordinary shares:  
You have a basic entitlement to receive 325 new Carlton ordinary shares for every £5,000 nominal of Central convertible bonds comprised in your holding of Central convertible bonds which is compulsorily acquired by Carlton. An election for new Carlton ordinary shares under the Mix and Match Election facility will be satisfied in full up to the limit of such basic entitlement. A Mix and Match Election made solely for new Carlton ordinary shares (and no other element of consideration) would, if able to be satisfied in full, equate to approximately 7,234 new Carlton ordinary shares for every £5,000 nominal of Central convertible bonds, and so in proportion for any other number of Central convertible bonds held.

To the extent that an election under the Mix and Match Election facility for new Carlton ordinary shares exceeds such basic entitlement, it will be satisfied by new Carlton ordinary shares and cash or alternatively Loan Notes on the basis of approximately 140 new Carlton ordinary shares and £3,899 in cash or alternatively Loan Notes for every £5,000 nominal of Central convertible bonds, remaining unsatisfied and so in proportion for any other number of Central convertible bonds held.

(b) Election for new Carlton preference shares:  
You have a basic entitlement to receive 2,494 new Carlton preference shares for every £5,000 nominal of Central convertible bonds comprised in your holding of Central convertible bonds which is compulsorily acquired by Carlton. An election for new Carlton preference shares under the Mix and Match Election facility will be satisfied in full up to the limit of such basic entitlement. A Mix and Match Election made solely for new Carlton preference shares (and no other element of consideration) would, if able to be satisfied in full, equate to approximately 926 new Carlton preference shares for every £5,000 nominal of Central convertible bonds, and so in proportion for any other number of Central convertible bonds held.

To the extent that an election under the Mix and Match Election facility for new Carlton preference shares exceeds such basic entitlement, it will be satisfied by new Carlton preference shares and cash or alternatively Loan Notes on the basis of approximately 36,235 new Carlton preference shares and £3,972 in cash or alternatively Loan Notes for every £5,000 nominal of Central convertible bonds, remaining unsatisfied and so in proportion for any other number of Central convertible bonds held.

(c) Election for cash:  
An election for cash (or alternatively Loan Notes) will be satisfied without limit on the basis of approximately £2,959 in cash or alternatively Loan Notes for every £5,000 nominal of Central convertible bonds, and so in proportion for any other number of Central convertible bonds held.

As these terms include a choice of consideration, you should within six weeks of the date of this Notice inform the Offeror in writing of your choice by post or by hand to National Westminster Bank Plc, Regional Department, New House, 15 Broad Street, London EC1Y 8BQ, as to which of the choices you wish to accept. If you fail to make a choice and do not make an application to the Court (see below) within six weeks of the date of this Notice, the Offeror will upon expiry of the six week period acquire your Central convertible bonds on the following terms:

For every £5,000 nominal of Central convertible bonds:  
£2,424.27 in cash;  
325 new Carlton ordinary shares; and  
2,494 new Carlton preference shares.

and so in proportion for any other number of Central convertible bonds held.

**NOTE:** You are entitled under Section 429C of the Companies Act 1985 to make application to the Court within six weeks of the date of this Notice for an order either that the Offeror shall not be entitled and bound to acquire your convertible bonds or that different terms to those of the Bond Offer shall apply to the acquisition. If you are contemplating such an action, you may wish to seek legal advice.

D. Andros, LL.B.  
Company Secretary for  
Carlton Communications Plc.

Date: 16th February, 1994

## Leyland-DAF workforce accepts offer

WORKERS at the Leyland-DAF plant in Birmingham have voted to accept a 2 per cent pay rise, with the chance to earn a further 3 per cent based on company profits. It was announced yesterday.

The company was re-launched last year with a management buy-out following the collapse of the Dutch-owned parent company.

The 1,000 workforce at the company overwhelmingly accepted the deal.

A Leyland-DAF spokesman said: "The successful outcome is another step in the development of our business for the benefit of employees, customers and suppliers."

The company recruited an extra 50 workers last week and boosted production from 200 to 250 vehicles a week.

**Answers from page 44**

**LCT**  
(c) A Landing Craft Infantry, small, uncomfortable and not very seaworthy transport craft, usually driven by RASC personnel, as part of Allied seaborne invasion forces in the last war. It was often a toss-up whether they would sink before they hit the beach. Sister boating vehicles were LCA (Assault) and LCT (Tank).

**TOUSSAINT L'OUVERTURE**  
(b) The rebel leader of the black slaves of France's colony of Santo Domingo, "the pearl of the Antilles". In August, 1791, he led them in a bloody revolt against their masters, the *grands blancs*, or rich sugar-plantation owners. He was later captured by Napoleon's troops, and died in a French jail. His remarkable name derived from a successful breach or opening made by him in enemy lines.

**VASAVASOUR**  
(b) A feudal tenant ranking immediately below a baron, somebody who holds his lands from a tenant-in-chief, apparently from the medieval Latin *vassorum* vassals of vassals. Walter Scott, *Castle Dangerous*, 1831: "One or two Scottish retainers or vassavours sat at the bottom of the table."

**LEPID**  
(c) Pleasant, jocular, facetious, amusing. Sometimes charming or elegant. An adaptation of the Latin *lepidus*. "These histories are probably not many degrees elevated above the lepid fables of Mrs Gossue."

**SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE**  
Solution: 1 Nf5+ is disastrous for Black, e.g. 1... Kg5 (1... Kh5 2 Rxd8 3 Qxd8) 2 Rxd8 and Black cannot recapture with 2... Bxd8 on account of 3 Nf6+.



FACILITIES  
MANAGEMENTKeeping an eye  
on securityAround Britain, closed-circuit television is helping to  
deter and catch criminals. Rodney Hobson reports

When property worth millions of pounds is at risk, ever more sophisticated electronic security systems are installed. Closed-circuit television surveillance does not come cheap but it can pay for itself.

A typical example is Coventry, where Chubb Alarms has installed round-the-clock surveillance in the main shopping area and car parks for the city council.

Malcolm Hall, Coventry's city centre manager, says: "Since the installation of CCTV, general crime has dropped by 8 per cent and there has been a massive 35 to 40 per cent decrease in auto crime. The cameras have been instrumental in bringing the offenders to justice and have provided a greater sense of well-being for people who use the city centre."

Spotting lost children and getting help to people who have collapsed has been a bonus.

Thorn Security reports similar benefits at its schemes in Workington in Cumbria and Kirkcaldy in Fife. When the council built offices and a car

park at Workington, vandalism was rife. In the first year, there were cases of thefts from 48 cars. The installation of only a three-camera system cut the number of incidents to six in a year, the worst being a broken windscreen. As a result, the Cumbrian town installed a more comprehensive system in its centre. The £80,000 round-the-clock system went live last month.

Kirkcaldy police compared the first 12 weeks after the implementation of a £40,000 CCTV system in the town centre with the same period a year earlier. Crimes dropped from 38 to 20, while the detection rate improved from nine cases to 13.

Assaults dropped dramatically. The figures were spoilt by six separate incidents of vandalism in one night, all by the same person. However, police did have the satisfaction of catching the culprit, thanks to the TV monitor.

Newcastle upon Tyne awarded its city centre scheme to Modern Security Systems. Within one square mile there is a large shopping area, an unusually high concentration

of public houses and clubs and the football ground. Sixteen cameras are linked to police headquarters.

Roy Carter, of Modern Security, says: "There are a lot of people in a small area so the place lent itself to TV surveillance. The centre attracts tens of thousands of people and as many at night as in the daytime."

He says the use of CCTV is spreading because equipment has improved in leaps and bounds. "One of the problems in the past has been the quality of the recordings," Mr Carter says. "Some operators have tried to save money by using the same videotapes over and over again, but the picture gradually deteriorates."

Dale Lawrence, of Chubb, agrees: "Modern cameras give much better definition. You can get a good still photograph from a video-recording. You have to be an expert to tell it has come from a video."

Those views are supported by frequent announcements of fresh deals being signed.

Group 4 Systems has this month signed two contracts worth a combined £1.2 million,



A technician monitors screens in a control room. Cameras can provide a greater sense of safety for people using city centres

one safeguarding freight for the Channel tunnel and the other at Brent Cross shopping centre in north London.

Group 4 is to be the main contractor in a project to install CCTV monitoring equipment at the Dollands Moor railfreight distribution centre near Folkestone, Kent. It will install Diamond, the direct action on demand — system that digitally records and stores images before, during and after an alarm. By quickly

replaying the incident on video, guards can spot what has happened.

Group 4 will also employ the Sentinel video motion detection system. This is the largest commercial installation for both systems to date. Group 4 has already installed an intruder alarm system around the perimeter at the railfreight centre.

At Brent Cross, 34 colour CCTV cameras will be installed to survey the entire

shopping area. The cameras have a special tracking facility so that individuals or groups can be monitored. Camera shots will be recorded on eight videos. The system will augment the existing system covering the exterior areas.

Also this month, Chubb Security has won part of a £1 million project to maintain security at the port of Melbourne, Australia. Its Wormald Security subsidiary will install closed-circuit cameras in

all three main international container terminals.

Cameras with high-powered lenses will feed pictures directly to Customs House in Melbourne. Senator Chris Schacht, the Customs Minister, says: "These systems will decrease the risk of illicit drugs and other prohibited imports entering Australia through Melbourne. The success of this project could lead to the installation of similar systems at other ports."

## IN BRIEF

## The bigger picture

FACILITIES and Property Management (FPM), a pioneer in the facilities management sector, is merging with Chesterton, the international property consultancy. It is the first alliance of its kind in the field.

Chesterton has more than 100 offices outside Britain, including the Continent, the Americas and the Far East.

## Best offices

THE 1994 Office of the Year Competition is being organised by the British Institute of Facilities Management in association with *The Times* and sponsored by Du Pont (UK).

The event is divided into three categories: purpose-built offices, existing buildings and small offices. Entries must be completed by May 31.

● Entry forms: British Institute of Facilities Management, 67 High Street, Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 1AA (0779 513371)

## Business dilemma

OUTSOURCING and its pros and cons will be explored in a seminar in Bournemouth next Wednesday. "Outsourcing — the business dilemma" is sponsored by the Department of Trade and Industry in association with *The Times*. Ten aspects of outsourcing will be investigated.

● Details: EPIC Event Management (0202 546299)

## Private companies cannot go unchecked

Surveillance groups are calling for an agreement that all businesses should meet minimum entry criteria

Tougher regulation of the growing security industry is being called for by the British Security Industry Association (BSIA). Discussions with the Government and the Association of Chief Police Officers centre on ways of regulating the fast-growing phenomenon of companies — some with little or no security experience — offering to operate residential street patrols.

This is against a background of BSIA's campaign to achieve fuller regulation of the private security industry, which is the second largest in Europe after Germany. The BSIA is the trade association

for the £2.1 billion annual sales of the private security industry. It has more than 200 members, including industry leaders such as Group 4, Securicor, Reliance and BET's Shorrock. Its member companies employ 75,000 people, about a quarter of the total number involved in security work.

Standards for the security industry

are, with consultations, written by the BSIA. Notably there is BS7499, the British standard for manned guarding, and BS5750, the quality and efficiency standard. Manned guarding accounts for about a third of total security industry turnover.

A separate body, the Inspectorate for the Security Industry (ISI),

inspects companies to see that they meet standards. Since the ISI was set up — with Home Office approval — in the autumn of 1992, it has carried out 350 inspections for the manned guarding standard and 150 for BS5750.

The BSIA has campaigned for all security businesses to be regulated, as happens in all other European

countries with the exception of the Irish Republic. The idea is that all security businesses should be registered. A possible structure would be for a registration board on which there could be appointees from the Home Office and the police.

The BSIA and ISI would continue setting standards and inspections, to make sure companies

applying for accreditation are up to scratch. BS7499 has been refined over the past five years so that it covers a company's financial probity, compulsory insurance, effective staff screening procedures and overall management competence and control.

Andrew Mackay, BSIA's marketing manager, says that the spate of

companies, most of them small, that offer residential street patrols has increased the BSIA's concern. Some were "coldly" targeting people such as old people, who might be particularly alarmed about rising crime rates.

One of the problems of the industry is that some security businesses will offer security officers at what would be "suicidal" commercial rates for any well-run company, Mr Mackay says. "Those worrying about standards, proper training and competence have to pass some of those costs on."

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 16 1994

\* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return) / Ex dividend; † Middle Price. No significant data.



ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 14. Dealings end February 25. <sup>8</sup>Contango day February 28. Settlement day March 7. <sup>9</sup>Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Parker	350	-10	...	4.6	...
Royal Dutch 71	7,579	-37	...	4.1	18.7
Schlumberger	3,900	-99	...	2.0	...
Seafield	7	-2	...	...	...
Shell	732	-3	22.8	3.9	22.9
Sunrise Egg Sv	135	...	...	...	...

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WATER			
Water	500	+15	4.9 11.0
Rent	100	...	2.1 1.5
Electricity	700	...	1.1 1.2
Gas	556	+8	5.0 8.2
Heat	388	+10	4.6 8.1
Water	616	...	4.4 9.0
Drugs	1841	...	48.5 78.1
Water	100	+5	5.0 5.8
Water	502	+14	4.2 11.1
Water	643	+9	4.4 8.0
Water	500	+7	4.0 7.0
Water	500	+5	4.5 9.3

suspension, 1 EA dividend: Ex  
 issue: Ex all, 4 EA capital  
 report available: ... No

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OILS, GAS					
17	Arab Heavy	30	4	1	26.2
18	Arab Light	32			
19	35 Arctic Ice	43			
20	41st Arab Oil & Gas	72			
21	42nd Arab Oil & Gas	74			
22	Berbery	75			
23	Brunei	76			
24	Canada	77	1	21	3.8
25	26th British Gas	309	8	14.2	5.3
26	27th British Gas	310	8	14.2	5.3
27	28th British Gas	311	8	14.2	5.3
28	29th British Gas	312	8	14.2	5.3
29	30th British Gas	313	8	14.2	5.3
30	31st British Gas	314	8	14.2	5.3
31	32nd British Gas	315	8	14.2	5.3
32	33rd British Gas	316	8	14.2	5.3
33	34th British Gas	317	8	14.2	5.3
34	35th British Gas	318	8	14.2	5.3
35	36th British Gas	319	8	14.2	5.3
36	37th British Gas	320	8	14.2	5.3
37	38th British Gas	321	8	14.2	5.3
38	39th British Gas	322	8	14.2	5.3
39	40th British Gas	323	8	14.2	5.3
40	41st British Gas	324	8	14.2	5.3
41	42nd British Gas	325	8	14.2	5.3
42	43rd British Gas	326	8	14.2	5.3
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50	51st British Gas	334	8	14.2	5.3
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229	230th British Gas	513	8	14.2	5.3
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231	232nd British Gas	515	8	14.2	5.3
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235	236th British Gas	519	8	14.2	5.3
236	237th British Gas	520	8	14.2	5.3
237	238th British Gas	521	8	14.2	5.3
238	239th British Gas	522	8	14.2	5.3
239	240th British Gas	523	8	14.2	5.3
240	241st British Gas	524	8	14.2	5.3
241	242nd British Gas	525	8	14.2	5.3
242	243rd British Gas	526	8	14.2	5.3
243	244th British Gas	527	8	14.2	5.3
244	245th British Gas	528	8	14.2	5.3
245	246th British Gas	529	8	14.2	5.3
246	247th British Gas	530	8	14.2	5.3
247	248th British Gas	531	8	14.2	5.3
248	249th British Gas	532	8	14.2	5.3
249	250th British Gas	533	8	14.2	5.3
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29 Double line	20%	-	5.4	18.2	75%	53% Woodco Water	56%	+ 5	4.4	4.6	
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## MUSIC page 34

Composer Robert Saxton taking part in a great British musical export to Norway

## ARTS

## PROFILE page 35

Barbara Dickson: the versatile singer who may just possess too many talents for her own good



Times critics preview the best of London's Spanish Arts Festival, which starts today

## Visions of a less familiar Spain

GALLERIES: John Russell Taylor on painting and photography shows which look beyond the stereotypes

Why Spain? Why now? In purely practical terms the explanation for London's Spanish Arts Festival this spring is simple: 1992 was a very good year for Spain, what with the Olympic Games in Barcelona, the World's Fair in Seville, and Madrid's stint as Cultural Capital of Europe. But what do you do for an encore? Especially if you hope to go on attracting a different, more cultivated class of tourist? Obviously, put the best you have to offer in a spectacular shop window.

Of course, there is always going to be argument about what constitutes the best and most attractive. As Carmen Alborch, Spain's dynamic (and stylish) new Minister for Culture, points out, a festival such as this should do more than merely confirm existing stereotypes. Everybody already thinks of flamenco, Velázquez, El Greco: in effect, the past. Stereotypes have an element of truth in them; it would be absurd, for instance, to stage a presentation of Spanish art without including at least one of the Spanish Old Masters (hence Goya at the Royal Academy and Zurbarán at the National Gallery), or one of the undeniable modern classics (Dali at the Hayward Gallery and Picasso at the Tate).

But there must be room also for the unfamiliar and the contemporary, for the six artists under 40 at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, or Pepe Espaliu at the ICA, or for recent Spanish photography, one of the more remarkable but less-known treasures of Spain today.

The Goya show at the Royal Academy (from March 17), subtitled "Truth and Fantasy", comes straight from the Prado, where it has been breaking attendance records — ironical-

ly, in a way, since a considerable proportion of the works included come from the Prado's own collection. But what it has offered to Spanish visitors is a sense of occasion and a new view of Goya, achieved by confining it to Goya's smaller works, the cabinet pictures, sketches and miniatures. Here more than elsewhere, Goya had only himself to please, and they represent the real heart of his achievement.

In addition, even for the Goya expert there have been novelties, such as the series of eight "Caprichos" belonging to the Marques de la Romana, never before exhibited together in public, and the re-assembly of Goya's miniature portraits on copper of his family, widely scattered since his death. The show brings us closer than any previous one to the mysterious and paradoxical nature of the man himself, and is in any case the first major showing of Goya in London for nearly 30 years.

It is not so long since the last important showing of Dali in London: there was a big retrospective at the Tate in 1980. But the festival exhibition (Hayward Gallery from March 3) takes a different line. It concerns itself entirely with Dali's early years, up to his first exhibition in 1929: Dali before Dali, as it were.

The permanent collection of the Spanish National Museum of Modern Art at the Centro Reina Sofia in Madrid, which has contributed a number of key works to this show, makes very clear the incredible variety and invention of the young Dali, painting now like a German Weimar realist or an Italian Magic Realist, now like a Cubist or a Futurist, and even sometimes like a minimal



Goya's *Banderillas in Open Country*, 1793, included in the Royal Academy's show of the artist's smaller works

abstractionist of the Robert Rauschenberg. All of these coexistent styles are represented, and may incidentally offer an unexpected bonus to visitors who, when it comes down to it, do not really like Dali very much when he is being typically Dali.

The Dali show also suggests a solution to another problem of which the minister is well aware: how do you present a united image of Spanish culture abroad when at home there is ever-increasing emphasis on the separate traditions of the autonomous

departments. At present in Madrid there is a splendid show called "Centro y Periferia" which examines precisely the separate contributions of regions like Catalonia, Andalusia and the Basque country to the development of modern art in Spain as a whole. Dali is well placed for this kind of exercise, since (unlike Picasso) he is unequivocally Catalan and at the same time representative of Spain as a whole.

The same is true in a different way of Pepe Espaliu, who died of AIDS just before

Christmas and is being shown at the ICA from March 2. Espaliu, whose delicate and slightly Surrealist sculptures and drawings are given a whole room in a new Reina Sofia show of Spanish art in the Eighties and Nineties, clearly draws on the Moorish background of his native Cordoba for some of his imagery, but finally expresses himself in a way that is Andalusian, Spanish, and European.

A similar universality is characteristic of the new Spanish photographers in "Cuatro Direcciones" at the Photogra-

phers' Gallery from March 11, which ranges in style from sober documentary to luridly colourful constructed images, and of the young painters, sculptors and mixed-media artists in "Mudanzas" at the Whitechapel Art Gallery from February 25: there is generally something one would pinpoint as recognisably Spanish, but they are in no sense parochial.

For details of the Spanish Arts Festival, telephone 071-490 2988; 24-hour recorded details are available on 0891 838780 (Calls charged at 36p per minute cheap rate, 40p peak rate)

## Heady taste of French fizz

OPERA: A delightful Massenet comedy receives its first British staging at the Royal Opera House

If Berlioz's *Béatrice et Bénédict* is "a caprice written with the point of a needle", then Massenet's *Chérubin* is a soufflé concocted from gossamer and thistledown, and it is so French as to make the Eiffel Tower look positively Teutonic. For the Royal Opera to have staged the first UK performance was an enormous risk at a time when opera companies are supposed to be playing safe. It really shouldn't have worked, and to write that it did, triumphantly, may be to enter a minority report: Monday's first-night audience was on the cool side, as though not quite knowing how to react. I mean, is it actually permitted to laugh at Covent Garden?

Admittedly, one or two dice were loaded against it. *Chérubin* was first performed in 1904 at Charles Garnier's deliciously irresponsible little opera house in Monte Carlo, and Covent Garden honestly is a bit too big for this *comédie chantée*, Massenet's own accurate designation. It really is a sung play, a boulevard comedy zipping merrily along with few pauses for either breath or lyrical expansion.

As such, it might have been wise to perform the piece in English, which contributed so much to the success of the WNO *Cendrillon* last year: the action proceeds at such breakneck speed that it simply isn't possible to read a cascade of surtitles as well as listen and watch. And of course the cold-baths-and-tweed element in British opera audiences has always been highly resistant to the heady, rustling-silk scents of Massenet's musical language.

The production team of Tim Albery and Antony McDonald, too, seemed at first sight unlikely: their last work together in London was the RSC's deadly earnest (and wonderful) *Walden*. What on earth would they do with this frothy? What they did, along with a hand-picked cast, was save it, devising a near-surrealist visual style that enhanced the zanily inconsequential story of the randy young officer's sentimental education, some way after Beaumarchais or Mozart.

Witty costumes, spectacular visual coups (the mobile hotel wall studded with shocking pink shells was especially entrancing), and a slyly straight-faced comic style made this an evening of rare sophistication, whereas the only previous staging in living memory (Santa Fe, 1989) was merely cute.

Mario Bernardi, whose sterling work for Sadler's Wells in the 1980s is not forgotten, had also conducted at Santa Fe, and came to

the rescue last week after "irreconcilable artistic differences" led to Gennadi Rozhdestvensky's withdrawal. Maybe the sound was a little too "fat" for the score's good, but the pacing was sound, the playing neat, and the mock-mock-Spanish dance numbers bounced agreeably. Most important, the singers were given admirable support.

And what singers! Susan Graham, whose double-creamy mezzo goes up and up without either loss of quality or any hint of strain, is sensational as the hero, and the fact that this young American looks good enough to eat on *traverse* is no hindrance at all in a star role created by Mary Garden. Her Octavian for WNO in the summer is awaited with barely controllable impatience.

Angela Gheorghiu's sweet



Spectacular success: Susan Graham serenades Maria Bayo

soprano was just as ideal for the ingenue role of Nina, and she matched Graham's clear, communicative French. The more grainy tone of the Spanish soprano Maria Bayo, playing the ineffably grande horizontale L'Ensoleillad, may not be to every taste, but it sounds authentically French and is very attractive when not under pressure. Robert Lloyd's clearly projected Philopote made one regret more than ever the cancellation of the 1990 *Don Quixotte* in which he was to have starred.

There are many acutely observed character performances: Jane Leslie Mackenzie and Fiona Kimm as a pair of fallible, pursed-lipped aristos, Ryland Davies (welcome back) as the fatuous Duke, and Gordon Sandison as an Innkeeper in a constant, nay, Howlerian state of raised eyebrows.

I thought the whole evening one of pure, unadulterated pleasure. *Chérubin* is not "great art"; it isn't "important". But my goodness, it's fun.

RODNEY MILNES

## Far better than a lot of old bull

Aficionados of Spain are going to have a field day. In fact, this cultural fiesta will not stop for months. I plan to be revelling around London in my mantilla well into the spring.

Part of the festival's agenda, however, is to avoid the obvious and the old hat — and that probably includes my mantilla. Superstars like Plácido Domingo do not appear. Arts festivals aren't made of money, after all. Lesser-known figures are enlighteningly mingled with the already established: the National Film Theatre, for example, has specimens of cinema up its sleeve stranger than Almodóvar.

The artistically innovative and the younger generation are being promoted, sent over by the Spanish Ministry of Culture as representatives, perhaps, of a new age for their nation as part of the modern world. Bullfighting on Trafalgar Square might, indeed, be a bad idea. The suggestion of a lecture on this polemical subject was diplomatically rejected. But you can still get a whiff of some symbolic bull at the ICA (April 1-9) when Albert Vidal chants ritualistically to a frame covered in rotting meat.

Santiago Calatrava may not be quite so avant-garde, but this multi-lingual, youthful architect, designer of Lyons Airport and Trinity Bridge linking Salford and Manchester, is being hailed as the epitome of the new European

With music, flamenco, theatre and performance art, who needs matadors? asks Kate Bassett

artist/professional. He will lecture on inner city regeneration and his work is at the Bruton Street Gallery (March 2-26). No sign of nobbly old Gaudi.

Also ground-breaking and relatively young, Nacho Duato is forging a tradition of modern dance for Spain. His *Compañía Nacional de Danza* should be seen at Sadler's Wells (March 15-19) flying across stage performing *tours en fair*, rolling along the floor, curling like vulnerable flowers, and squatting angularly like Indian Gods.

Maria del Mar Bonet's singing of Mediterranean folk songs is electrifying. Even if the group are still finding their feet, Duato's choreography is entrancing: moving, whimsical, socially concerned and internationally eclectic.

In the more strictly traditional arena, the festival takes off at Sadler's Wells on March 7 with Cristina Hoyos's fiercely skilful flamenco company. Flamboyant and rigorous, they will stamp, tap, snap their fingers and mesmeris-

ingly twist their hands above their heads at the opening royal gala performance.

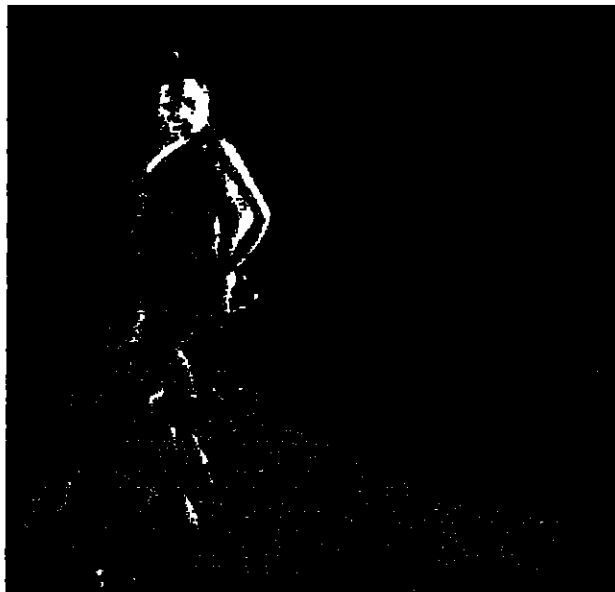
The *Compañía Nacional de Teatro Clásico* arrives on March 23 for a Sadler's Wells season (to March 26) with Cervantes's play *La Gran Sultana*. The music will be played on reproduction 16th-century instruments, yet the director Adolfo Marsillach rejects conservative calls to stage Golden Age plays with historical accuracy.

In any case this particular romantic comedy, radically depicting the love between a Turkish sultan and a Spanish Catholic, was never staged in its day. Its message of ethnic and religious harmony has contemporary relevance to troubled central Europe.

When I saw it in Madrid, the production, with a distinct commercial element to its pink sunsets and silhouetted minarets, clearly had more popular appeal than a museum piece. The heroine's acting seemed melodramatically dated, however, and her supposed innocence looked suspiciously like cheap, calculated sexiness: she's got a shag perm and she's going to use it.

Still, the exotically ornate set, all trunks and flowers, feasts the eye: Manuel Navarro's sultan is suave, like Sean Connery in a turban; and Héctor Colomé is a wonderfully funny clown with a voice like Irish coffee.

As Spanish theatre goes, the festival is thin on the ground due, presumably, to expenses.



Cristina Hoyos's fiercely skilful flamenco company will dance at the festival's royal gala performance

With the burning of the Liceo Theatre in Barcelona, the absence of an opera is the sadder.

Musically, though, there are points of interest. The London *Sinfonietta* (March 27) and the UK's *Arndt Quartet* (April 10) appear alongside Spain's ground-breaking contemporary chamber orchestra, *Grupo Círculo* (March 20), in a programme of concerts at the Almeida Theatre including specially commissioned pieces by Araceli and others. The English Chamber Orchestra goes Spanish with soprano Maria Bayo (Queen Elizabeth Hall on March 11). The orchestra

of St John's Smith Square accompanies the adored soprano Victoria de los Angeles (March 24).

In the wake of the New World's quinquennial when we were all able to get some of that (justified) spleen about Columbus out of our systems, this festival may now get the British to reconsider Spain as not only worth watching out for once again but this time to be welcomed.

The arts, when world class and funded enough to flourish, give a country international prestige. The Spanish Ministry of Culture, with a

fund for promoting arts abroad, is amending the image of Spain as a marginal west European power which, for decades under Franco, wasn't even a democracy and which some probably thought ought not to try hobnobbing with the high arts of its civilised, better-heeled neighbours.

On the business side, the Royal Bank of Scotland and Banco Santander believe that their joint beneficence as principal sponsors "reflects the strong and growing alliance" of their banks in the financial sphere. British Telecommunications, splashing out as associate principal sponsors, are said to be enriching their partnership with Grupo Santander with that extra cultural dimension.

There is criticism in Spain for the Ministry of Culture's funding of its arts outside the country itself. Spain has been hit extremely hard by the recession. Even in the last couple of weeks, shows scheduled to come over here for the Spanish Arts Festival have been axed.

Nonetheless, there are still artistic riches. The *Orquesta de Cambra Teatre Lliure*, relished at Edinburgh, are back at Queen Elizabeth Hall on April 7 playing Manuel de Falla's *El amor brujo* with the famous fire dance. Actually, you can hear this particular work in three different forms during the festival. Aficionados probably can't believe their luck.

### International Chamber Music Series

#### ALBAN BERG QUARTET

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Tuesday 22 February at 7.45pm

Haydn String Quartet in D minor, Op.76 No.2 (Fifths)

Janáček String Quartet No.2 (Intimate Letters)

Haydn String Quartet in C, Op.76 No.3 (Emperor)

Tickets: £15 £18 £9.50 £6

Booking & Series Offer ring 071-928 8800

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# Composers at heart, every one

Hilary Finch joins members of the London Sinfonietta bringing music to the schools of Norway

Landing is tough and go in a February blizzard on the tiny ice-packed runway of Sandness, a remote settlement of some 6,500 inhabitants on a narrow arm of the Nordfjord in western Norway. The London Sinfonietta made it by the skin of their bongos, but their manager and a cello or two were diverted to another fjord, and very nearly had to ski their way back.

London's leading contemporary music ensemble were on the last lap of a seven-concert tour of Norway. In between gigs at Tromsø, Oslo, Kristiansund and Bergen, they had been invited, *en passant*, to create the country's first composition-based schools project. Sandness, more usually occupied in manufacturing windows and building passenger boats for Korea, just happened to be holding a contemporary music festival that weekend, and was appointed as the chosen victim.

Two decades ago, Sven Henning, concert director of Rikskonsertene, the generously state-funded body responsible for distributing live music to every fjord, fell and mountain-top in Norway, had met the London Sinfonietta at the Bergen Festival. He had been impressed by their educational work, and had followed them closely ever since. The Sinfonietta had, after all, been the first British orchestra to appoint an education officer. And as orchestras gradually realised they could attract more funding if they took on educational work, and as under-resourced schools demanded it more and more urgently, the Sinfonietta went from strength to strength. Now educational projects, from the smallest venture to the greatest Turn of the Tide, are not only politically correct, but an economically essential part of British orchestral life.

In Norway, on the other hand, music is still, generally speaking, something only professionals do. The academics, regional conservatories and community music schools founded in the Sixties are turning out a new wave of accomplished soloists: musicians like cellist Truls Mørk and pianist Leif-Ove Andnes now make international headlines. And Rikskonsertene has set up a formidable network of activity bringing concerts to schools from Sandness to Svalbard. But partici-



A great British musical export: composer Robert Saxton at work with student musicians in Norway

tory, composition-based projects are all but unknown. Now, though, as cracks begin to appear in the comprehensive and all-encompassing system of Scandinavian social democracy, and the oocoon of the cultural welfare state begins to unravel, Norway is beginning to see the need to move from creating audiences of recipients to generating a revitalised musical society of collaborators and activists. The time was ripe for the London Sinfonietta's visit.

The team of five, who have made three visits in the last three months, included composer Robert Saxton and music animator supreme, Richard McNicol. Frustrated at the lack of musical outreach in the early Seventies when he was principal flautist of the London Philharmonic, McNicol's own missionary zeal led him out of the orchestra and into the life of itinerant musical evangelist. He is now employed in that role by the London Symphony Orchestra, and his visit to Norway came in between similar projects in Iceland, the Canary Isles and Jordan.

His model is a simple and infinitely flexible one. A contemporary work — in this case, Robert Saxton's 1985 *The Circles of Light* — is taken as the springboard for ideas and techniques which are explored by small groups of instrumentalists as they begin to create their own full-length composition. There is no notation, no theory, no rights and no wrongs. Instead, skills of listening, responding, and judgment are developed as elements from the work — for instance, the movement from darkness to light, a pattern of dance rhythms — become the focus for a new composition.

At Sandness, the Sinfonietta team worked with three distinct groups: shy, compliant primary school children; sixth-form college music specialists; and a group of 16-year-olds from the less goal-orientated, alternative Folkehøgskole.

Each one had its own obstacles and resources; each one turned out a composition of real imagination and credibility, fit to take its place alongside works by Saxton, Takemitsu and Xenakis in the Sinfonietta's final concert in the snowbound school hall.

Meanwhile, Tuula Yrjö-Koskinen, the Sinfonietta's education manager, sat at the back and took notes. She, after all, has been the catalyst for whole enterprise. Recently poached by the Sinfonietta from her pioneering work as education officer of Finnish National Opera (in turn initiated and inspired by her own investigations, earlier in her career, of the work of the Sinfonietta and of English National Opera's Baylis programme), Yrjö-Koskinen is now setting up a wide network of contacts throughout Scandinavia, and has plans for major educational projects with the Sinfonietta in her native Finland.

While our own schools struggle to find the resources to meet a grossly under-funded subject which is, nevertheless a compulsory part of the National Curriculum, Richard McNicol is in demand from the Canary Isles to Jordan, and governments from Austria to Scandinavia are endorsing and funding his work and that of groups like the London Sinfonietta.

One of Britain's most rapidly developing growth industries is becoming one of its most live yet underestimated exports. "They say we are all composers," marvels Sven Henning. "And having seen them work, I think there is quite some truth in it."

Here, music is still something done only by professionals

CONCERTS: Simon Rattle helps the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment launch a European tour



Spacious yet cogent vision: Simon Rattle at the podium

## Eager young man casts his spell

SIMON Rattle, principal guest conductor, was at the helm as the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment launched itself on a prestigious tour of six European cities with two concerts in London. Rattle began with what he does as well as anyone else: Haydn.

In that composer's fine Symphony No 90 he played every gesture to the full, using facial expressions as much as hands to make minute adjustments to balance and mood, and paying as much attention to double basses as to first violins. His mixture of energy and concentration was impressive: so was his shaping of phrases in a way that sublimated the barline's dominance. He also made the most of the finale's false endings, playing up to an audience which was always going

OAE/Rattle  
Queen Elizabeth Hall

to take Haydn's hair every time. Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony, beautifully shaded though it was, was less successful, the lyrical expanse of the first movement allowed to go slightly limp. Only with the faster, more dramatic music did the performance really take to the air: Rattle is still an eager young man, and occasionally broader movements lack cogency in his hands.

That was not the case the following evening, when he began with a wonderful account of Mozart's Symphony No 40, dark and urgent and as

carefully prepared and extreme as the Haydn, with an aggressive one-in-a-bar Minuet, an Andante in which Rattle allowed the OAE's excellent woodwind soloists free rein, and a scintillating yet still darkish finale.

In Schubert's Ninth Symphony there were also spine-tingling moments. The contrasts in the second movement were as extreme as you are likely to hear, the silence after its main climax extended — a bit naughtily — for an apparent eternity. But it was Rattle's overall vision, spacious yet cogent, which impressed so much; that, and the fact that he had these excellent players so much under his spell that you felt they would do anything for him.

STEPHEN PETTIT

### LONDON

**HUNGARIAN STATE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Konrad Konrad is joined by his highly acclaimed violinist Lydia Motowidlova for a programme of Wagner (Overture from *Die Meistersinger*, *Brünnhilde* (Concerto) and *Berlioz* (Concerto for Orchestra). *Barbican*, 5.30pm, 7pm, 9pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm (Mon-Sat).

**THE LIFE OF GALILEO** Opening night for David Hare's new version of the Brecht/Richard Griffiths play. The world-weary scientist harnessed by the Inquisition. *Almeida*, 8pm, 10pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

**LONDON MOZART PLAYERS** The ensemble continues its series of concerts which contrast one of Paul Sacher's commissions with favourite works from the repertoire of the 18th and 19th centuries. Tonight's programme includes: works from JS Bach, Leopold Mozart and Schubert, plus Britten's *Endgame*. *Queen Elizabeth Hall*, 7.45pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

**CLASSIC SCULPTURE AND PAINTING** A harrowing of the forthcoming Spanish Arts Festival (see previous page 33), this show seeks a new perspective on the artist by presenting the central importance of the sculptures he made throughout most of his career. The painted sculptures are particularly

### TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

emphasised as providing the common ground between the two media, and elsewhere sculptures are generally shown along with paintings on similar themes. *Whitechapel Gallery*, 10am-5pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

**ELSEWHERE** **COVENTRY** Chalk By Jow begins their latest national tour tonight with Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*. Debutant Donnell directs the company. *Debutant*, 7.30pm, 9.30pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

**LEEDS** John Harvey's humorous farcical *Beautiful Thing* is a riot of Shakespearean parody. *Leeds Playhouse*, 7.30pm, 9.30pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

### THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

**House full, returns only**  
**Some seats available**  
**Seats at all prices**

**MACBETH** Denis Jacobs and Cheryl Campbell star in Adrian Noble's gothic production. *Barbican*, 7.30pm, 9.30pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

**ME AND MAMIE O'Rourke** French and Saunders in a wondrously light-hearted comedy. *Leeds Playhouse*, 7.30pm, 9.30pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

**THE NEW MENZIES** First in the series of the 18th-century "Age of Unreason". *Leeds Playhouse*, 7.30pm, 9.30pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

**PERE GORIOT** Geoffrey Bevers adapts and directs Balzac's great novel of 19th-century Paris. *Leeds Playhouse*, 7.30pm, 9.30pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

**PIAF** Elaine Page in powerful voice as the French singer. *Leeds Playhouse*, 7.30pm, 9.30pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

**SEPTEMBER TIDE** Celine Dion in a musical about the West End. *Leeds Playhouse*, 7.30pm, 9.30pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

### CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and elsewhere. Indicated with the symbol ( ) on release across the country

**THE AGE OF INNOCENCE** (U) Steven Berkoff's sprawling, heart-felt version of Edith Wharton's novel about the lives of the New York elite. *Leeds Playhouse*, 7.30pm, 9.30pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

**CARLETON'S WAY** (U) Can Al Pacino's gangster go straight? *Leeds Playhouse*, 7.30pm, 9.30pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

**THE THREE MUSKETEERS** (PG) Now, young and enterprising version of Dumas's tale from Stephen Herek, with Kiefer Sutherland, Jason Statham, and Chris O'Donnell. *Leeds Playhouse*, 7.30pm, 9.30pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

**ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES** (PG) Over-the-top sequel, with good snatches from America's most macabre household. *Leeds Playhouse*, 7.30pm, 9.30pm (Mon-Sat). Tickets: 7.50pm, 9pm, 11pm (Mon-Sat).

### ENTERTAINMENTS

#### ART GALLERIES

**ROY MILES GALLERY**, Well Framed Landscapes in Oil. Only 6000. Also on view: painting from the artist's new series, 20. *Bruton St*, 10am-5pm (Mon-Sat).

#### EXHIBITIONS

**Make You're Money Grow!** The Daily Telegraph's Financial Times, 12.30pm. *Bruton St*, 10am-5pm (Mon-Sat).

**Enjoy a Great Shopping Trip!** The Daily Telegraph's Financial Times, 12.30pm. *Bruton St*, 10am-5pm (Mon-Sat).

#### OPERA & BALLET

**COLISEUM** 01 836 3161 (24hr). *English National Opera*, 7.30pm (Mon-Sat).

**ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** 01 340 1089/1091. Tickets on the day. *Strand*, 7.30pm (Mon-Sat).

#### THEATRES

**ADELPHI** 01 344 0055. *24hr* (Mon-Sat).

**SUNSET BLVD** 01 344 0055. *24hr* (Mon-Sat).

### APOLLO VICTORIA

01 416 0043 or 01 416 0044. *24hr* (Mon-Sat).

**SUNSET BOULEVARD** 01 344 0055. *24hr* (Mon-Sat).

**THE LIFE OF GALILEO** 01 344 0055. *24hr* (Mon-Sat).

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### DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL

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**SUNSET BOULEVARD** 01 344 0055. *24hr* (Mon-Sat).

**THE LIFE OF GALILEO** 01 344 0055. *24hr* (Mon-Sat).

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# Another music case, another hall

With the release of an album of traditional folk songs, the almost too versatile Barbara Dickson has returned to her roots. Clive Davis met her

In a business where image and image-making have grown ever more important, Barbara Dickson finds herself at something of a disadvantage. A versatile performer, she possesses perhaps too broad a range of talents for her own good.

Which Dickson are we supposed to admire most? There are those — the majority, probably — who know her as the homely, middle-of-the-road balladeer, Elaine Paige's partner on the hit duet "I Know Him So Well". Some regard her first and foremost as a soulful interpreter of folk songs. Others again remember her as the actress who brought the character of Mrs Johnston to life in the original production of Willy Russell's hit musical *Blood Brothers*.

The different facets of the Scottish singer's personality were on display in December when she made a rare cabaret appearance at the Café Royal's Green Room. Performing with just two backing musicians, she delivered an unusually broad selection of songs, "Lush Life" mingling with "Still Crazy After All These Years", an a cappella version of Ewan MacColl's "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face" and "Ich bin von Kopf bis Fuss auf Liebe eingestellt" (better known here as "Falling In Love Again").

Listening to Dickson's competent but undazzling live records you often find yourself wishing that her ethereal voice could be set to work on more sophisticated material. At the Café Royal, singer and songs

finally came together. With her new album she is signalling a subtle change, back in the direction of her early apprenticeship on the folk circuit. *Parcel of Rogues* offers contemporary settings of 13 traditional songs from England, Scotland and Ireland.

Robert Burns wrote the words to the title piece; the others include a Victorian temperance song and mournful tales of ill-starred lovers, poachers and assorted ne'er-do-wells who end up on the gallows or on transportation ships.

Folk-club die-hards may well object to the slick production values. The ambience is more redolent of Radio 2 soft rock than half-pints of bitter and out-of-tune guitars. It is, you might say, a folk album for people who would not normally venture into the folk section of their local

¶ If people don't like me, fair enough; if they do, this is what I'm all about ¶

megastore. As Dickson explains, the project fulfils a long-standing ambition. "In my youth I made four folk albums. One was a collection of Jacobite songs recorded in a back room in Kilmacally. Then I signed to Decca. I prefer to forget those; they weren't made in a few days and there wasn't enough time to work out the arrangements. I felt very frustrated, although I had very good musicians."

"I always told myself that one day I would be given the opportunity to make a good folk album. This is it. I feel I've been able to bring to it all the experience of the past 20 years. I've done other things but the essence of me is in this record and



Singer of soulful ballads, singer of Top Ten records, singer of torch songs and show-stopping Lloyd Webber hits, Barbara Dickson is running out of fields to conquer

my previous one (*Don't Think Twice*, a set of Bob Dylan songs). If people don't like me, that's fair enough, but if they do like me, then this is what I'm all about."

When she performs "I Once Loved A Lad" Dickson is trading on well-worn territory. It was, she recalls, the first Scottish song she learnt when she made her first hesitant outings in folk clubs in Dumfries and Edinburgh. At 17, with an undistinguished school record and three O levels behind her, she was working as a civil servant while singing in clubs in the evenings on a mainly casual basis.

The possibility of pursuing a

career as a full-time singer did not occur to her until she was offered a six-week engagement in Denmark. When she was told that she could not take unpaid leave from her post, she gave up her day job and soon moved south of the border to work in clubs, picking up about £15 a night and often staying at the homes of friends and contacts, one of whom was the aspiring Merseyside playwright Willy Russell.

Later, when he was casting around for a singer to handle the lead vocals for his Beatles musical *John Paul George Ringo... and Bert*, he turned to Dickson. She stayed with the production when it transferred from the Liverpool

Everyman to the West End. Eight years later she and Russell joined forces again for *Blood Brothers*, in which Dickson's performance earned her a SWET award for best actress in a musical.

Working on the show gave her added confidence in front of audiences. She is, she admits, a diffident performer who lacks self-confidence. Before *Blood Brothers* she was content to hide away behind a grand piano; now she works harder at projecting herself purely as a singer. At the Café Royal audiences had the opportunity to savour that pure diction without the distraction of a heavy concert hall backdrop. Dickson was at first intimidated

by the intimate setting. "It was quite scary — the first time I'd been so close to an audience since I was in folk clubs. The first night we felt terribly exposed, but after that we decided to give ourselves up to it and it all started to be very enjoyable."

Dickson goes back on the road in May for another tour. Last year she briefly returned to the stage to mark the show's tenth anniversary. At 46 and the mother of three young children, she confesses to being tempted by the idea of devoting more time to acting. Ten years ago

she told an interviewer that she felt she had yet to "find herself" as a performer. She is, she feels, still some way from her goal.

"I have a reputation as a singer of romantic ballads, but I've never seen myself in that way. I don't think I either look or sound romantic. Because I'm a singer I tend to be offered acting roles that are pretty lightweight. I don't want to play Shakespeare, but I'd rather have a cameo role as somebody's mum hanging out washing in a good play from Glasgow than have a singing role in something that didn't have much substance."

¶ *Parcel of Rogues* is released by Castle Communications on Monday

## TELEVISION REVIEW

### Just give us the facts, ma'am

Last night's opening episode of Laura Lamson's two-part thriller *Calling the Shots* (BBC1) certainly kept us guessing. I wasn't always sure what about.

With thrillers, you're either on the edge of your seat, trying to unravel how the plot might develop, or you're struggling to work out what has happened: not in a Holmesian sort of way, more in a "what-was-all-that-about" sort of way. *Calling the Shots* is either shooting for a complicated denouement or it has more distracting red herrings than Billingsgate. Why does Lynn Redgrave's Maggie Donnelly, the ageing television reporter at the hub of the story, speak with an Irish brogue? Why does she wear sunglasses and a beret in the office, in pubs — in fact, any time, any place, anywhere, like that jingle for Martini?

Her character is complex, or maybe it's just confusing. Redgrave is forced to swing from being the hard-as-nails, been-there-done-that reporter to the weak, weepy woman who doesn't even think to ask the BT operator (let alone the police) to intercept anonymous harassing phone calls that are cracking her peace of mind. This contrast can come across as dramatic light and shade,

but often the careerist behaviour recalled a reckless bumper car at a funfair.

It does not help that the current affairs programme for which Donnelly works is an off-the-peg number from central casting. Television drama has a tough time inventing convincing television reporters. Donnelly is the textbook hack, passionate about exposing corruption. Her editor, natch, is a wimp who wants to boost audience ratings with lifestyle stories. Donnelly drinks too much, has a broken marriage behind her, a messy private life, and eats unhealthy food at unhealthy hours, usually straight from the fridge.

The plot starts to twist when Donnelly, sent to film a piece on health clubs, uncovers a rape and then bullies the victim into telling her story on-screen. The shamed rapist later commits suicide; or maybe not, because he seems to be the chap making the spooky phone calls. Yet, for an investigative journalist, Donnelly does not do much investigating of her own private life. She just crumbles.

Colleagues, like her cameraman Charlie, fall under suspicion for no clear reason. Is this paranoia? Is Charlie the one



Lynn Redgrave as the hard-nosed, soft-boiled television reporter in *Calling the Shots*

making the phone calls? Or is it just a red herring? Covering a story about dodgy retirement homes, Donnelly flees from the scene, weeping. Why? Did she put her folks in such a place and is she now feeling guilty? No explanation, not yet anyway.

With so many loose ends, you hope a few might start

being woven together by now. Maybe it's one of those thrillers in which all the strands are knotted together in the final minutes, a dramatic equivalent of the rush hour at Crewe. The first half of the two-part ended on a tantalising note when Donnelly received, again anonymously, a sneak videotape of herself alone in

her flat. As the film camera panned to where the Peeping Tom's video camera must have been, there was a black-out and the ending credits rolled. I'd like to know what happens next. And I'll watch, just in case the second half enlightens me.

JOE JOSEPH

## RADIO REVIEW

### Movements in the market

All manner of embarrassment could now be heaped upon those who once predicted that no good would come of commercial radio, but in glass houses we hoard no stones. The commercial sector has largely flourished, although not without help from dumb complacency in parts of the public sector.

Some of the shares tipsters are predicting a bull market in commercial radio, a phenomenon which has nothing to do with Ambridge. Apparently radio for profit is, er, making a profit and we should all rush out to buy some of it.

Classic FM, the station set up to take on Radio 3, has been transformed from a sickly child much mocked in Broadcasting House into a strapping youth with reported revenue of more than £1 million a month. This is in spite of early scoffing to the effect that some of its music presenters needed time to answer the question: "Who wrote Beethoven's Fifth?"

The station has greatly benefited from critical comparisons with Radio 3, for, while the BBC (at least internally) wasted time in attempts to tackle Classic FM as inferior competition, Classic was itself vigorously building an audience that was a mix of new listeners and listeners pinched from Radio 3's soft underbelly, namely its long-standing stuffiness and its more recent obsession with "modern"

work of dubious merit. In the purely musical sense, the real difference continues to be that Radio 3 leans towards complete works while Classic is mainly a sampler station, and none the worse for that.

Ironically, an interesting example of precisely what makes Classic FM attractive arose on Radio 3 this week in a five-part series called "One Man's Meat", in which a different guest each night is asked about the music he or she dislikes.

The idea is a good one for it either reinforces or undermines the prejudices of the audience, a device beloved of the media in all its manifestations.

On Monday the guest was Timothy West, the actor, who set about attacking Brahms's Requiem in no uncertain terms. "Dreary is the word I am trying to avoid," West said. He need not have bothered avoiding it, for several others meaning roughly the same thing came into play. West allowed the point made by the interviewer, David Owen Norris, that there were bits of the Brahms to which the word dreary might not apply. Indeed, Norris said, "People tend to listen to their favourite bits."

Quite so. And increasingly they tend to listen to their favourite bits on Classic FM. This is not a tendency of which West seemed enamoured, per-

haps fearing that the disease will spread to encompass people listening to their favourite bits of *Hamlet*.

Talking of the sublime reminds me of the gor blimey. Radio 2 is fond of filling the odd hour with programmes whose provenance is the calendar, so, this being the centenary of Jack Benny's birth, last night brought... *The Jack Benny Story*.

The droll American comedian, who invented the deadpan stare at the audience later taken up by Bruce Forsyth et al, was a mighty figure in 20th-century comedy, but one would hardly have known it from this strange brew.

The programme took far too long to explain why Benny mattered, especially for that significant part of the audience which must be under 40 and therefore was not even born during the Second World War (Benny started performing during the First).

But there was a nice archive interview with Benny, in which he discussed the contrast between his famous meanness on stage and his generosity off it. He once took a 60-cent taxi ride in New York and gave the driver \$2, only for the driver to say: "I wish you hadn't done that, I wanted to go home and tell my wife what a cheap sonofabitch you were."

PETER BARNARD

## CATCH THIS HARE

LONDON  
National Theatre  
*The Absence of War*  
Feb 23-24, 28,  
March 7-9, 7.15pm

THERE are only a few more weeks (it closes on March 19) in which to catch *The Absence of War*, David Hare's highly entertaining, contentious and extremely topical play about politics and politicians.

Moving from the House of Commons to the intimacy of an office in Walworth Road and then to the party conference, *The Absence of War* follows beleaguered Labour leader George Jones (an outstanding performance from John Thaw) and the members of his inner sanctum as they plan their campaign to win a general election.

Despite the valiant efforts

THE TIMES  
THEATRE  
CLUB

of Labour's PR machine, however, party in-fighting and Jones's struggle to reconcile his political principles with political reality, threaten to thwart their hopes of victory. Tickets are £16.50 (normal top price £21), which includes a voucher for a glass of wine or soft drink. Telephone 071-928 2252 (10am-5pm). For details of how to join the Theatre Club, please telephone 071-357 9673.

THIS enterprising theatre, above the Prince of Orange pub at Greenwich station, looks set on a course that could make it southeast London's answer to Notting Hill's Gate: resourceful staging in a small space, strong acting, and a concern to revive or introduce European rarities.

Lessing, Holberg, Schnitzler and, next month, Diderot's *The Nun* make a rich opening programme, with the first three cunningly combining social insight with comedy. For this reason the over-all title that Margaret Forsyth gives her translations of four Schnitzler plays promises a more sombre view of sexual relationships than the evening actually delivers.

All four are set in identical rooms in a Viennese boarding house. The first, *Half Past One*, shows a lovable woman unwilling to let her lover leave: it is the merest sketch and the tone is very light. Deeper matters intrude in *The Hysterical Woman*, where Philippa Cameron's grave wife will have to allow her husband to make love to her again because her lover has made her pregnant. Cause for weeping here, I suppose, and the lover (Alex McSweeney) is insensitive enough to open champagne as their talk touches on abortion, but only pours a glass for himself.

## THEATRE

### Obscure delights

And Women Must Weep  
Greenwich Studio

The longest piece is *Comforting Myths*, where Schnitzler presents a broader section of society as setting for a tortuous affair between Fedor and Anna, an actress on the eve of her first success. After publicly declaring that men should not hold a woman's youthful indiscretions against her, Fedor finds himself eaten up with jealousy and doubts. To be caught up in the situation we need to be shown qualities in him that Anna credibly loves, but Steven Elder's suitably anguished performance leaves little room for this and Nina Jacques is only given the chance

to display her character's demure and puzzled side.

The treat of the evening is *Literary Matters*, where a young poetess confesses to her fiancé — not just a gentleman jockey but a titled jockey — that she has written a novel about love. To her dismay, a former lover arrives from Munich, bringing the novel he has written about her. Each of them had included all the love letters that passed between them. "How dare you?" she breathes, stepping aside for another gasp at the cigarette she has concealed in the bureau.

Schnitzler is not denying that their feelings could have been genuine, even when the lover discovers that "I write in impassioned haste" was copied from a carefully phrased first draft. But this is a society where emotions are to be arranged, if not before, then afterwards. The playing is delightful: Nigel Carrington's blithely superior fiancé, Donna Wilson's crisp defence of her self-esteem, and Julian Forsyth equally confident as the wild man of Munich. The directors are Margaret Forsyth and Jonathan Banatvala, and I look forward to seeing how GST develops in their hands.

JEREMY KINGSTON

## MARK-ANTHONY TURNAGE

performed by the BBC Symphony Orchestra  
conducted by Andrew Davis

Royal Festival Hall, 17 and 23\* February 7.30pm

\*includes world premiere of his saxophone concerto *Your Rockaby*

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American Investment Bank, based at Canary Wharf, requires a confident, enthusiastic young secretary to assist the President Administrator in a busy, involving role. Duties will be very varied and you will be a strong team player and able to liaise at all levels. Excellent presentation is an essential requirement, as are skills of 80/50/WP. For an immediate interview please call Claire Ashley on 071 377 8827.

**Crone Corkill**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

### American Dream £15-20,000 + bens

Fantastic chance to work in an American investment bank in the heart of the City. We are recruiting for several positions which will offer stylish computer literate secretaries the opportunity to have interesting jobs with friendly people in beautiful surroundings. The rewards are high for those with a flexible attitude, proficiency on Windows or Apple Mac and preferably spreadsheets. A background in finance would be preferred. Age 20's. Please telephone Melanie Hill on 071 377 9919.

**HOBSTONES**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

### Maine-Tucker Recruitment Consultants

### Fluent French (English Mother Tongue) Travel and work in Europe and the USA

For two dedicated professional Personal Assistants, of the greatest character and integrity, this advertisement represents the opportunity of a lifetime. Our Client a well-known family whose lives move constantly around an international circuit offers superb salaries, conditions and all expenses in return for your complete loyalty, discretion, hard work and constant reliability. Both candidates must have had a very good general education. In addition, to these personal qualities, all candidates must have the credentials outlined below.

### Senior Personal Assistant/Secretary

You must be highly organised, flexible in your work style, a person with the ability to run complicated international travel itineraries. You must be resourceful, patient and able to turn your hand to anything. You must be excellent at prioritising but at the same time understanding that your highest priority is always the family. You must be comfortable and experienced in travelling, able to adapt quickly and easily to different countries and their customs. A person able to work effectively wherever they are based in the world. You must be able to work closely in tandem with one other person (the Junior Personal Assistant), this is important because together you will make up the family's secretarial support. Excellent typing, shorthand an advantage. Aged 30-45.

### Junior Personal Assistant/Secretary

All the same credentials as described above but aged 24-40.

Interested parties must be free of commitments. In addition to fluent French, any further European languages are a bonus. In the first instance please telephone our offices prior to sending your CV.

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HP  
Telephone 071 734 7341

### Word for Windows Secretaries

For our major client the European Bank for Reconstruction & Development we currently require experienced secretaries for a variety of temporary opportunities. A city or financial background would be ideal. Shorthand always useful.

If you have the required word processing knowledge, & are looking for work within a challenging international environment, supported by an attractive pay & benefits package, please call Claire Baker immediately.

Tel: 071-488 2880  
78 Fenchurch Street,  
London EC3M 4BT

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### LEARN NEW SKILLS AND REFRESH OLD ONES

Intensive or flexible courses in information technology and secretarial skills offered throughout the year.

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25% Tax Relief on all self-funded training.  
Careers Advisory Service available.

### GROSVENOR

KENSINGTON TO HAMMERSMITH  
£12,000 - £25,000

Why commute when you can earn big bucks just around the corner?

If you are a bright second jobber, an executive PA or something in between, we have several companies looking for outstanding candidates in the West London area.

GROSVENOR BUREAU RECRUITMENT  
TEL: 071 499 6566 CONSULTANTS

### SECRETARY c.£14,000 + BENS.

Successful, growing software development and marketing company based in new, air-conditioned Jermyn Street offices seeks bright, young secretaries for varied work in a young team environment. Flexibility, initiative and education to Level standard essential. No shorthand required. Would suit a second jobber. Non-smoker only please. Please send CV to Lisa Harding, Business Actions Ltd, 125 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 4UE.

### SECRETARY/PA Salary to £15,000

We are seeking a bright, well organised individual to provide full secretarial support to a busy Agricultural Surveyor.

We offer plenty of scope for involvement in a small, busy, friendly office in Mayfair. WordPerfect 5.1 (60+ wpm)

Apply to:  
Andrew Macpherson  
Cliff Kennedy Drive,  
19 Queen Street,  
London, W1X 7EL.

### TOP 100 FOOD, DRINK AND LEISURE PR COMPANY

requires efficient and committed PA/Secretary to assist Director in a busy and varied position. Salary c. £15,000 pa. Please write CV to: The PR Connection Limited, 48 Westminster Palace Gardens, Ardley Row, London SW1P 1PR. No agencies please.

### PRIVATE HOUSEHOLD

requires a discreet efficient and reliable secretary (10/60) to work in a small office in Kensington. Aged 20-28. Non-smoker. £12,500. Please telephone Mrs Stourton on 071-937 6377.

### SECRETARY/ ADMINISTRATOR

Conventional small management consultancy group near Paddington Station seeks bright secretary with initiative. Must be flexible & have excellent typing, organisational & computer skills. Immediate start. £12,000. Please call Stephanie on 071 727 080 or John on 071 792 0772.

### SECRETARY

Secretary required a busy well established and privately owned estate agency. Essential skills: audio typing, good telephone manner, common sense and confidence. Please reply in writing enclosing a copy of your CV to: 5 Anderson Street, London SW3 3JA or call Jane on 071 25 8277 Fax 071 25 8278

### Secretary to Finance Director

Salary £15,000 aeg. West End Property company well established and privately owned estate agency. Essential skills: audio typing, good telephone manner, common sense and confidence. Please reply in writing enclosing a copy of your CV to: 5 Anderson Street, London SW3 3JA or call Jane on 071 25 8277 Fax 071 25 8278

### WORKING BIG!

Executive Secretary c.£25,000  
Plus Substantial Company Benefits

If you're reading this advertisement the likelihood is that you are a substantial, top flight Corporate PA/Secretary. This is exactly the specification that we are seeking for our client. On offer is a career with a BIG company that really builds careers, and rewards which are amongst the best for Secretaries in London. This position is as high profile as it sounds, working in a demanding, exciting environment for a very Senior Executive. This is a largely Administrative role utilising your own task management, and decision making. It naturally demands a maturity of skills and proven dedication to the job. Age 28-40 with at least 4 years experience of operating in a multi-national company, you must have the presence and skills to work in a high powered executive arena. Experience of organising and administering complex travel itineraries would be helpful. If a real career with a Global company agrees with you, call Suzanne NOW on 071 240 6240/0040 and GROW SOME!

Working Girls Ltd, Professional Recruitment  
17 Tavistock St, Covent Garden, London WC2E 7PA

### SHORTHAND SECRETARIES To £20,000

High calibre shorthand secretaries are required by a number of blue chip companies to provide full administrative and secretarial support to ensure that high standards are maintained. A good educational standard, fast and accurate typing, punctuation and communication skills and strong secretarial skills are essential. Initiative and a willingness to progress are expected. In return our clients offer excellent salaries and a wide range of benefits and perks.

Call Geraldine Wright on 071 626 8315.

### PA TO MANAGING DIRECTOR £18,000

Our prestigious client requires a secretary with excellent communication skills and high levels of initiative & experience as a top level PA is required. A shorthand and a good knowledge of spreadsheets. Our client operates in a dynamic marketplace and this position is demanding as well as rewarding.

Call Jane McGinley on 071 437 9030.

### ESTATE AGENCY SECRETARY

Leading Independent London Estate Agency requires bright, skilled Secretary to join young, fun team in Notting Hill branch. Good prospects. £13,000pa. Estate Agency Recruitment 071 938 3855.

### MEDICAL SECRETARY PA

Top class person lively, pleasant, ambitious & happy to manage busy Sports Medicine Practice in Harley Street (9/14). Salary of £16,000. Ring Tricia 071 631 1771.



### "MIRROR GROUP" MANAGING DIRECTOR'S P.A.

Salary: negotiable Canary Wharf

Mirror Group is a vibrant and expanding business, which has overcome a legacy of testing difficulties to emerge as a strong, high-profile media force.

Soon to move to spectacular new offices at the Tower in Canary Wharf, its newspapers which include the Daily Mirror, the Sunday Mirror, The People, the Daily Record, the Sunday Mail and the Sporting Life, will have the most creative environment and advanced technology of any newspaper group.

This job is characteristically that of a top P.A. with a high-level of literacy and professional skills. The experience and style to deal confidently with executives, staff, business and media contacts at every level is essential.

It is demanding in both the speed and diversity of work and requires exceptional commitment, initiative and the flexibility to be able to work long and unpredictable hours.

Please apply by writing with a career résumé and details of salary and current position to:

The Human Resources Director (MD)  
Mirror Group Newspapers plc  
33 Holborn  
LONDON  
EC1P 1DQ

### Open Evening for Legal Secretaries

Temporary & Permanent  
to £20,000

We're having an open evening tonight from 5-7pm at our offices at 115 High Holborn, WC1V as we have opportunities for high calibre LEGAL SECRETARIES with WP 4.2 & 5.1, WP FOR WINDOWS & MICRO-SOFT WORD. So call & make an appointment to become a member of the Angel brigade!

Call SARAH on 071 430 2531

Legal Office Angels  
Recruitment Consultants



## CS FIRST BOSTON

### Opportunities in Personnel

CS First Boston has developed an outstanding international reputation in investment banking and securities over the last twenty years. This success is due in no small measure to the quality of people we hire. To continue the development and support of all our growing business units, we need to recruit a number of individuals to work within our expanding Personnel Department.

The Personnel Department supports 2100 people in all aspects of personnel administration including recruitment; compensation and benefits; training; relocation and accommodation worldwide; career development and employee counselling. The roles are varied, but will primarily support the individuals responsible for any of the above, in either secretarial or administrative functions.

We would like to talk to candidates who want a challenge and the genuine

opportunity to develop their careers further. You will probably be one of two levels: either, a young, bright, committed secretary looking for a step up, or an experienced PA seeking the chance to utilise your skills fully in a demanding administrative environment. To be successful, you must already have excellent secretarial skills, preferably W4W/Excel, combined with the flexibility to grow and take on additional responsibilities. In all cases, personality, presentation and confidence are the most important factors, with excellent written and oral communication skills absolutely essential.

The opportunities to develop are genuine for those keen to use their common-sense and initiative. We offer an excellent salary and benefits package, including free travel and health club, and an impressive working environment.

For those interested, please send written applications only to:

Susan Wild, Personnel, CS First Boston, One Cabot Square, London E14 4QJ.

### INTERNATIONAL BANKING £21,000 + Package

This internationally renowned City Bank seeks proactive, confident people to provide secretarial and administrative support. Your excellent organisational and interpersonal skills will be vital to you. You will be involved in preparing and typing of correspondence, reports, documents and publications. Excellent presentation, 'A' level calibre, age 23-30. Word for Windows or Wordperfect 5.1, 3-4 years secretarial experience essential.

Please telephone 071 628 9529  
**Elizabeth Hunt**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

### PA/CO-ORDINATOR £18,000 + Benefits

Prestigious W1 based international perfume company needs an organised and capable PA/Secretary to assist their Finance and Operations Directors. Involving role including lots of co-ordinating and analysing of information. This position would suit a proactive and confident contributor with financial experience. 50wpm WP and spreadsheet essential. Age 25-35.

Please telephone 071 499 8070.  
**Elizabeth Hunt**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS



TO ADVERTISE  
CALL: 071 481 9994 (Trade)

# LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

FAX:  
071 782 7828

## Personnel Secretary £14,000 + benefits

This is a new position providing full support to the Personnel Manager and backup to small, busy personnel team within a major national newspaper. Assisting in all aspects of personnel administration, you will need excellent secretarial skills, at least one year's work experience, a keen interest in computers and highly developed interpersonal skills. Benefits include subsidised restaurant, sports and social facilities. For details, please telephone 071-493 5787.

GORDON YATES

Recruitment Consultants

## Creative Design £15,000 + bonus

Brilliant opening for ambitious, outgoing, on-the-job SCA. The company has a record second to none for creative, world-winning product design. Working in a varied, multi-disciplinary role you will provide support to a small marketing planning team, day on day of marketing information, take part in new business work and help produce in-house newsletters. Fast, accurate typing (65 wpm) essential along with graphics experience and ability to thrive under pressure. Age 25+. Call 071-409 1232.

THE WORK SHOPS

Recruitment Consultants  
to the Communications Industry

**LONG TERM TEMPS!**  
Worried about where your new assignment is coming from? We have 6 long term bookings starting IMMEDIATELY for Team Secretaries and Senior PAs with 55wpm typing and ideally MS WORD for WINDOWS and/or POWERPOINT. Call now on 071 408 0424.

Tate

## Maine-Tucker Recruitment Consultants

## EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT £25,000

Motivated by motivators?...This Fulham based company are experts in training & development. Their forte is motivating the workforces of prestigious companies to get the best out of their working day from management to presentation skills. Now they need you, a heavy weight PA (100/60 - infrequent use) to work as a right hand to their MD & act as a harmonising link between admin & sales. As well as keeping a 'friendly but efficient eye' on fellow admin colleagues you will handle conference organising, liaise with suppliers & printers, arrange seminars & more. You'll need to be a 30-40 yr old graduate with solid admin experience, be bubbly, charismatic, well presented & a dedicated, professional. Motivated? Call

18-21 Jersey Street, London SW1V 6HP  
Telephone 071 734 7341

## Judy Farquharson Ltd.

PA TO PUBLISHER AND VICE PRESIDENT. Along with 55wpm typing, good WP, excellent organisational and planning skills, you will need to have a good knowledge of the publishing industry and be able to handle a variety of correspondence. A graduate with a degree in English, a proven track record in the publishing industry, a proven track record in the publishing industry, a proven track record in the publishing industry.

## Marketing Assistant

Competitive + benefits  
Towers Perrin, one of the world's largest firms of consultants and agencies needs an Assistant to join its London-based marketing team.

The role is two-fold, requiring both secretarial skills to support the Marketing Manager and DTP expertise to produce layouts for printed documents and seminar materials.

You'll need to be highly organised with a flexible approach to what is a constantly changing role. Most importantly, you must be Apple Mac literate with a working knowledge of WordPerfect 5.1.

If you feel that you have the necessary skills to move into marketing support, call Zoe Hockenhull or send her your curriculum vitae.

GRADUATE appointments

Langley Street  
London  
WC2H 9JA

Telephone 071-734 0311

Fax 071-734 0113

## Time to Temp

The buzz is definitely back in the City as temporary assignments are flooding in. Our clients are poised for a record-breaking year and we need your help. You'll need excellent secretarial skills and a flexible attitude to work for these major players. Temping through us you will earn top rates and enjoy the support of a friendly and professional team. Everything happens first in the 'square mile' - we're ready, are you?

Call the temp division now on 071-377 8827.

## Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT - Temps - CONSULTANTS

## Born Organiser £23,000 pkg

Top Investment Bank needs a confident and outgoing PA/secretary with excellent organisational skills to join a team of busy executives. Your enthusiasm and efficiency will be appreciated as you prepare reports and presentations to deadlines, juggle a hectic schedule of appointments and international travel itineraries and assist in the overall smooth administration of the office. A sound background in finance/banking is essential, combined with skills of 80/60 WPM. Age: 22-35. Please telephone Claire Ashley or Katherine Hall on 071 377 8827 for further details.

## Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Career PAs £19,000-£23,000

Career-orientated PAs, who have gained valuable experience at manager/director level and want to enhance their already impressive CVs are sought by major blue chip West End organisations. The pace of these jobs requires strong organisational, decision-making and communication skills. Intelligence (A-levels), sound secretarial skills, professionalism and loss of energy are vital. Age 28-40. Please call Claire Meyer on 071-434 4512. Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

## Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## 2nd Jobber in Publishing £12-14,000

Switched on, confident, capable, hard working candidate wanted for this exciting opportunity in publishing. An eagerness to learn and lots of initiative are required together with good English, A-level standard education and an eye for detail. Desired skills include 80 shorthand, 60 typing, good Wordperfect 5.1 and an excellent telephone manner. Superb benefits and a chance to progress. Age 20-25. Please call Harriet Eastman on 071-434 4512. Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

## Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## PA/ORGANISER IN MARKETING £17,500 Neg + Bens

A top Int'l Co. urgently seek a PA/Sec to this fun, charming Marketing Director. Tons of organising, client liaison & project work. 80/90 SH ess for min use. 60 wpm WP Age 22-30. Xtrn W4W.

Please call 071 287 3664  
NEXT EMPLOYMENT.

## Start in the City £14,000 plus Banking Benefits

Successful fund management company based near Tower Hill is looking for a new member to join a young and dynamic team. This is a wonderful opening for a college leaver secretary looking for the opportunity to learn in a busy involving role. Duties will include travel arrangements, diaries and typing correspondence. Skills: 45 wpm typing. Must have English GCSE. For an immediate interview please call Claire Ashley on 071-377 8827.

## Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Busy, Buzzing Banking! £19,000 package

This is a brilliant opportunity to show off your administrative skills in a demanding role with a large American Investment Bank in the City. Looking after an MD and his busy team in FX Trading, you will be totally involved in co-ordinating meetings, organising travel and entertainment. Age 22-26. Typing 55wpm and knowledge of Word for Windows. If you're bright and can cope with a buzzing environment, please call Caroline Tyers on (071) 377 9918.

## HOBSTONES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## CRESTERTONS

London's largest letting agent has a vacancy for a

## Manager

at its busy Chelsea office. If you are a self-motivated, dynamic business builder with good working knowledge of letting legislation, a clean driving licence and are looking for a challenging position where hard work and success are rewarded by a generous salary package, then apply today with a full CV to:

Rosemary Gilbert, Crestertons Residential  
40 Connaught Street, London W2 2AB  
Fax No. 071 706 3267

## PA to CHAIRMAN - £16,000 p.a.

A high calibre PA required for a busy Computer Graphics company. To provide secretarial support (WPS, Windows and Audio) primarily to Chairman (also other Directors) and managing Marketing database (training given). So, if you enjoy working in a demanding environment and are prepared to be flexible with working hours please reply in confidence to:

Miss S.J. Evers, Clicks Group Ltd,  
10 Baker's Yard, Baker's Row, London EC2R 3DD  
by Friday 25 February 1994.

(No agencies please)

## METAL TRADERS, MAYFAIR £20,000

If you are seeking a secretary to work evenings from approx 1.30pm to 9.30pm (weekdays). The successful applicant will possess excellent secretarial skills (100 wpm shorthand), 10 wpm typing and will be fully conversant with WordPerfect 5.1. If you are working a team player who has a flexible attitude to the occasional risk and who can work under pressure - this is a demanding role which requires common sense and a sense of humour. Interview. Please visit our CV 1/1.

Metal Resources Group Limited, 10 Hill Street, Mayfair, London W1Y 7PL. Fax 071 495 8289. No agencies.

## PARTNER PA/SECRETARY Great opportunity to join a different type of Firm

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD BASED

ROBSON RHODES is rapidly establishing a reputation as an exceptional Firm of Chartered Accountants. We have a clear business strategy which has resulted in significant growth in recent years in spite of the recession.

An opportunity has arisen in the Hemel Hempstead office for a Secretary/PA to join two very busy Partners.

The successful candidate will ideally be aged between 35 and 45 and educated to a high standard. Excellent audio typing/shorthand skills (80 wpm) are essential as well as having:

- Highly proficient secretarial and organisational skills.
- A thorough understanding of good office practice.
- Previous experience of working at senior level.
- Ability to operate flexibly and effectively without the need for close supervision, be capable of assessing constantly changing priorities and thrive under pressure of tight deadlines.

The salary will be according to qualifications and experience. Benefits include 22 days holiday, profit related pay scheme, private medical and health insurance (subject to service qualification), a contributory pension scheme and free car parking.

For an application form and a job description please contact Michelle Taylor on 071 865 2472.

ROBSON RHODES

Chartered Accountants

RSM

international

## P/A TO DIRECTOR

Greenwich £20,000

This go-ahead and innovative museum requires a lively and experienced PA to help the Director through a period of major development. The post requires flexibility, clear thinking and good interpersonal and communication skills. The post holder will be dealing with a variety of very senior people, including trustees, government ministers and business figures.

The National Maritime Museum is the largest maritime museum in the world. It is located in the beautiful surroundings of Greenwich park, and includes the Queen's House built for Henrietta Maria in 1635, and the Old Royal Observatory, home of longitude and Greenwich Mean Time.

We require a proactive person to provide the Director with:

- An efficient administrative service, emphasising development and strategic roles.
- Co-ordination of Director's activities and events.
- Organisation of VIP visits and functions.
- Assistance in preparation of papers and reports.

You will be experienced at directorate level and will have the ability to plan and prioritise work.

Conditions of employment are first class together with salary circa £20K.

An Equal Opportunities Employer.

Please submit your application and C.V. to: Colin Banbury, Archers Personnel Services Ltd, Tring House, High Street, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 8RL.



NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

## Anderson Hoare Recruitment Consultants

Join the Elite!

£20,000. This Executive Search Co. rapidly expanding their client base is looking for a person to complement their successful Senior Partner. For someone looking for an incredibly busy but involving working day it offers a brilliant opportunity! An assertive and dedicated manager, together with fast typing (with audio) and Wordperfect 5.1 a must. Age 28-40. Please call us immediately for more information.

8A Symonds Street  
Sloane Square  
London SW3 2TJ  
Tel: 071-824 8821 Fax: 071-824 8827

## UXBRIDGE PA £18,000

Senior American Investment group need top PA for their Finance Director. Roles include: 80 wpm shorthand, 60 wpm typing, 100 SH ess for min use. 60 wpm WP Age 22-30.

## MUSIC RIGHTS PA £16,500

We require 100 wpm audio, music, copyright (from pop videos to case 10) needs: exp. shorthand right hand 100 SH ess for min use. 60 wpm WP Age 22-30.

Call 071-409 7061/  
071-493 8611  
ALBANY APPOINTMENTS

## Personal Secretary £18,000 plus perks

required for Managing Director running a major subsidiary of Property Development plc. in E15. Shorthand and experience at senior level essential along with smart appearance and sense of humour! Pension Scheme and Free Parking. Telephone 081 553 0921. Alfred Marks Recruitment Consultants

## PA/MEDICAL SECRETARY £17,500 neg

A young, single female, private medical practice in Chelsea & 1 mile to the sea. PA to senior doctor. Must be a graduate with a degree in English, a proven track record in the publishing industry, a proven track record in the publishing industry, a proven track record in the publishing industry.

## THE TIMES PROFESSIONAL SECRETARY OF THE YEAR AWARDS 1994

This prestigious competition is now open to all career secretaries and PAs, both male and female. Now in its third year, the competition is seeking excellence, total professionalism, commitment and integrity in the workplace.

THE LONDON SECRETARY & OFFICE MANAGEMENT 94

The awards are organised in conjunction with the London Secretary and Office Management Show, to be held at the Barbican from April 19 - 21. Entries must be on an official entry form, obtained only from the Show organisers' telephone hotline: 071-233 8068.

Employers are also warmly invited to request entry forms for their staff. The forms include a section to be completed in endorsement of an individual's entry.

A superb prize package is available to the winners. It includes two Lufthansa business class flights to anywhere in Europe, two Mercury One-2-One handsets, clothes from Wallis, Florell accessories, a course from the Industrial Society, PC World starter packs and much more. Employers endorsing entries will be entered in a draw for prizes including a day at a racehorse trainers' yard from the Market Racing Agency and lunch or dinner at London's much-praised Canal Brasserie.

Mercury one2one

Organised in conjunction with The Industrial Society

## LEISURE AND AMENITIES

## SECRETARY TO THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

(AMENITY SERVICES)

Up to £15,978 p.a.

We are seeking an experienced Secretary to work for our Assistant Director (Amenity Services) in Wandsworth Town Hall, SW18.

You could be just the person we are looking for to join our friendly team, if you have the following essential skills and experience;

- A minimum of 5 years secretarial experience.
- Typing speed of at least 70 wpm.
- Shorthand or Speedwriting of at least 90 wpm.
- Experience of spreadsheets in any common Pro-Based Software.
- Good communication skills, as well as being experienced in communicating with all levels within a large organisation.
- Good organisation skills.
- A flexible approach to your work.
- A commitment to equal opportunities.
- Good general health.

If you are a 9 to 5, job description oriented person, then this is not the job for you! The post also requires an innovative person with superb customer care skills. In return your job will never be dull, and each week a new challenge will greet you.

For further information please contact Peter Brennan (Assistant Director) on 081 871 6385.

Application forms are available from Leisure & Amenity Services Personnel Section, Town Hall, London, SW18 2PU. Telephone 081 871 7795. Please quote reference 2263.

Closing date: 4/3/94.

Wandsworth

The Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer welcomes applications regardless of race, colour, nationality, ethnic origin, sex, marital status, disability or age. All applications are considered on the basis of their merits and abilities for the job.



## SECRETARIAL OPPORTUNITIES

London W10

We have the artists, we have the drive and we have the reputation.

We also have opportunities for bright, young secretaries to work at Director level within our organisation.

Successful candidates will possess full secretarial skills, a flair for organisation and the ability to communicate at all levels.

If you have a passion for music and think you have what it takes to work in the music industry then send a full CV to:

Jill Berry, Personnel Department, Virgin Records Limited, Kensal House, 553-579 Harrow Road, London W10 4RH.



## TV - Sen Sec/PA TO FINANCE DIRECTOR £20,000

With a professional, commercial background (finance, legal, business affairs), excellent organisational/interpersonal skills, bags of enthusiasm, initiative, confidence and foresight - you'll be the ideal person to help this FD (first growing TV co) join dept. Get involved with Business Development, legal affairs + distribution. 60wpm. Apples/Spreadsheet exp. 25-35.

Call CAREER MOVES for an immediate appointment on 071 626 6411 or fax us on 071 626 2457 (Rec Cass).

## MASKELL'S

CHELSEA ESTATE AGENTS

REQUIRE

FULL TIME SECRETARY.

SALARY BY NEGOTIATION

TELEPHONE: MASKELL'S

071-581 2216

107 Walton Street, SW3

## CHAIRMAN'S PA - £28,000

We are still looking for the best PA in London to join the well-known Chairman of one of the country's top Companies. Key responsibilities include co-ordinating his business and private schedule of meetings, overseas visits and social functions as well as liaising with senior executives within the business world. This calls for an excellent communicator with sound experience at Chairman level, a lively and balanced personality, 'A' levels and skills of 110/70. Written applications only to 29 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9HD. Previous applications are being considered.

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES  
Rec 071 629 9323 Cons

## Born Organiser

Temp to Perm

£17K

Hold the fort for key business development team of large multi-national as they negotiate tenders worldwide. Organise everything, co-ordinate their schedules, streamline & set-up new office systems. You will have bags of initiative, excellent communication skills & take a pride in work presentation. Exp in Word/Powerpoint/Excel but not in 'Top 50 wpm'.

Call Jane Morgan on 071 256 6668

Love + Tate







# Enter The Times First XI competition and win a trip to Melbourne

## Deadline arrives for last entries to selection game

THOUSANDS of readers have already taken the opportunity to pit their wits against those of the England selectors by playing The Times First XI game but time is running out for anyone still wanting to take part. The telephone lines for the game close at noon today, little more than an hour before the first ball is bowled in the first one-day international between West Indies and England in Barbados.

In The Times 1st XI game, you can pick the team you would like to see and measure

its performance against the players' real statistics, which will be published after every international match in The Times. Whether you enter for your own satisfaction or to pit your selection skills against friends or colleagues, the game should add to the excitement of what should be a memorable series. And for those who prove the best at 1st XI cricket, there will be some memorable prizes, including the trip of a lifetime to see England play Australia in the Christmas Test at Melbourne.

The aim of the game: Readers are invited to pick their England cricket XI from the party in the West Indies and estimate the players' individual performances in the five one-day internationals and five Test matches of the tour. The winner of the game will be the person whose predictions are closest to the actual performances of his or her selected eleven players in all ten matches.

The prize: Win the trip of a lifetime for yourself and three family members or friends to see the Christmas Test match between Australia and England, which begins in Melbourne on December 24. We will provide flights, hotel accommodation for two weeks in Melbourne and tickets to each day of the Test match.

The Test is one of the great occasions in the cricketing calendar. England's visits attract special interest and crowds in excess of 60,000 are commonplace at the MCG, especially on Boxing Day, which this year will stage the second day of the match. Christmas Day is a rest day.

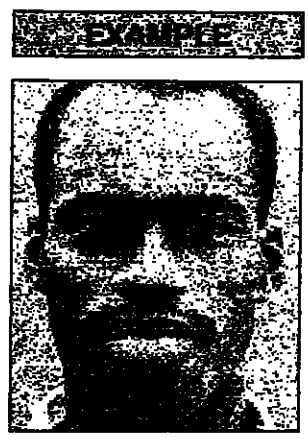
The Melbourne Test will be the second in the five-Test series in which England will be attempting to regain the Ashes which they last secured at the MCG in December 1986. Then, under the leadership of Mike Gatting, they won by an innings in three days. Four years earlier England won a famous victory on the ground by three runs.

Twenty runners-up will each receive a pair of tickets to one of England's six Test matches against New Zealand and South Africa this summer.

What to do: Simply study the 17 names of the England tour party printed on the 1st XI list. Then select your XI, bearing in

mind that you must pick six from the batsman category and four from the bowler category. You must also pick one of the wicketkeepers, Stewart or Russell, and designate him as wicketkeeper. Whichever of these two players you do not choose as your wicketkeeper, you may nominate as one of your six batsmen. When you telephone your entry, you will be asked for your wicketkeeper selection first. You may not pick any player twice.

For each of your eleven players, you will be asked to



Player: Chris Lewis (bowler)

Predicted runs: 228  
Actual runs: 181  
Difference: 47  
Points (47 x 1): 47  
Predicted wickets: 16  
Actual wickets: 15  
Difference: 1  
Points (1 x 20): 20  
TOTAL POINTS (47 + 20) = 67

give your predictions of the total number of runs they will make in the international matches (five Test matches and five one-day internationals, which allows a maximum of 15 innings), and then the total number of wickets they will take.

In the case of the designated wicketkeeper, catches and stumpings will count as wickets. When you call The Times 1st XI number, you will be asked to express each selection numerically. For example, if you have selected Alec Stewart as your wicketkeeper, and are predicting that he will score 350 runs and take 25 wickets, your entry would read: 02 350 25

Throughout the period of international matches, The Times will print the running totals of all 17 players. After April 21, the last day of the fifth Test, the final totals of

each player will be compared to readers' individual selections.

The difference between predicted totals for each player in each category and their actual totals will be measured in points: one point for each run, and 20 points for each wicket, regardless of whether you have underestimated or overestimated. Three examples of how predictions would be measured are given below. The winner will be the reader with the fewest points.

No allowance can be made if a player is injured or sent home for any reason, nor for loss of play due to weather conditions or any other external factors. Readers should bear these points in mind when making selections. No substitutions will be allowed.

The deadline for telephone entries is noon today, an hour before the first ball is to be bowled in the opening one-day international in Barbados.

You can enter as many times as you like, but each entry requires a separate telephone call. You can enter on your own, with your family (up to a maximum of four people) or a joint team (maximum of four) with your friends, but all callers must be aged 18 or over.

When you have selected your team, check what type of telephone you are using. You must have a Touch-Tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a \* and a hash key are Touch-Tone) to enter. You cannot enter using a rotary dial or "pulse" telephone. Once you have found a Touch-Tone telephone, you can enter by dialling 0891 500 103. The lines are open now. Then just follow the simple step-by-step instructions on the line. Listen carefully and take your time. The recorded message will ask you to key in the full set of selections (player reference number, number of runs, number of wickets) for each of your 11 chosen players in turn, starting with the designated wicketkeeper.

You will then be asked to record your name, address and daytime phone number. Finally, you will be given an eight-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN). You will need this if you are a winner. Use The Times 1st XI list to record your selections and your PIN.

### THE TIMES

## To select your eleven from the England tour party call:

# 0891 500103

No	Name	Runs	Wickets
01	R C Russell		
02	A J Stewart		
03	M A Atherton		
04	G A Hick		
05	N Hussain		
06	M P Maynard		
07	M R Ramprakash		
08	R A Smith		
09	G P Thorpe		
10	A R Caddick		
11	A R C Fraser		
12	A P Igglesden		
13	C C Lewis		
14	D E Malcolm		
15	I D K Salisbury		
16	P C R Tufnell		
17	S L Watkin		

Your Personal Identification Number [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]  
Calls cost 30p a minute plus 4p a minute at other times.  
Calls last around 6 minutes

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Only applications made through The Times 1st XI telephone lines will be accepted from readers in the United Kingdom and Channel Islands. Postal applications will only be accepted from readers in the Republic of Ireland and outside the UK and must be received by the closing date. Only one postal entry per household is permitted.
- There must be received by noon today, February 16, 1994. There is no limit to the number of telephone applications any person or household may make. The lines are open now.
- Only players published in The Times 1st XI list will be accepted as entries into the 1st XI competition. Incorrect entries null and void with no refund. No correspondence related to players selected will be entered into.
- The 11 players selected must be drawn from the 17 in the published list. Six must be drawn from those designated as batsmen, four from the bowlers. One must be drawn from the wicketkeeper category although either Stewart or Russell may also be selected as a batsman if not picked as wicketkeeper. No player may be picked twice.
- The Times independent panel of experts will provide updated records of each player's performance on a regular basis.
- Inaudible or incomplete applications will not be accepted. The computer's record of the entry will be considered to be the entry.
- Other is open to readers over the age of 18.
- The first prize will go to the team with the lowest total score. If there is more than one entrant with the same total of points, the winner will be decided by a draw. In the first instance of a tie, the entrant whose selected eleven made the most appearances in the last matches would be adjudged the winner. We will investigate complaints but our decision is final and we will not enter into correspondence regarding the competition.
- Promotional and explanatory copy relating to The Times 1st XI form part of the terms and conditions for participation.
- Calls charged at 30p per minute plus 4p a minute at other times.
- Calls should take around six minutes.

## England use limited time to hone skills for real Test

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS

A MONTH of shadow boxing gives way to the first serious scrap of England's tour here today. Come April, and the end of the Test match series, precious few people will recall the details of this first of five one-day internationals. And yet as a reconnaissance with the stern facts of Caribbean cricket, its importance to England should not be underestimated.

For Michael Atherton, more than anyone, it is a day of reckoning — not only his introduction to opponents who have ruthlessly destroyed previous England captains but also the resurrection of a part of his career that went to waste when Graham Gooch was in charge.

Remarkably, Atherton has missed 29 consecutive limited-overs games. He last played in May 1991, when he was named man of the series against West Indies before, bizarrely, being banished to obscurity. Only now, within his own regime, can he correct the neglect he never understood. "I have always believed that Test cricketers should be able to play one-day cricket but that the reverse is not necessarily true," he said yesterday.

England's selection for today does contain some tactical improvisation for the short game. Atherton and Stewart will open, for instance, but Stewart will also keep wicket while Graham Thorpe, highly rated as a one-day player by his captain, will bat at No 3. Chris Lewis, who is out of the Test match thinking, also has a chance to improve on his one-day batting average of 11.95.

The eleven will be finalised this morning but, at least until Alan Igglesden's latest untimely injury, the team eliminated was due to be either Mark Ramprakash or Devon Malcolm, players who do not often compete for the same place. Malcolm has only been considered for the limited-overs side through the injuries that discount Fraser and Caddick, and England would prefer to keep him in wicket-taking mode rather than imposing worries about containment.

With only four front-line bowlers, England would have to divide ten overs between

Hick, Thorpe and Ramprakash. It is a policy with a degree of risk but its merit is in emphasising where England's priorities lie. "The Test series is far more important," Atherton said. "It will live in people's minds when everyone has forgotten about the one-day games."

For a time yesterday, it seemed that some of the West Indies players, the captain included, had already done so. Richie Richardson and the three fast bowlers from his Leeward Islands side — Curtly Ambrose and the two Benjamins, Kenny and Winston — were absent from their final practice session.

Rohan Kanhai, the team manager, defused the situation by pointing out that his

### TEAMS

WEST INDIES (from): B B Richards (capt), D L Haynes, B Lara, P J Simmons, K L Anderson, J C Adams, A Harper, C E L Ambrose, A C Cummins, W K M Benjamin, K G C Benjamin, C A Walsh.

ENGLAND (probable): M A Atherton (capt), A J Stewart, G P Thorpe, R A Smith, G A Hick, F P S. Ramprakash, C C Lewis, S L Watkin, P C R Tufnell, D E Malcolm.

squad would now be together for some weeks and that the Leeward Islands had finished a match in Guyana on Sunday. The fact is, though, that two players who played in that game were present yesterday and even Kanhai had to admit: "It would have been nice to have all the boys together today."

Atherton was unconcerned by this diversion, focusing his attention on trying to improve England's grim record in the West Indies, where the only one-day game they have won, at Port of Spain in 1986, came courtesy of a century from Gooch that rates among the five best limited-overs innings I have seen.

Another in that list was played by Robin Smith against Australia last summer and England will look to him for both strength and wisdom today. Smith's 58 one-day internationals make him the senior player but the gulf between the experience of the teams at this level is such that Desmond Haynes has played more of these games than England's likely team today.

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# Tottenham likely to escape demotion



Parry: enquiry member

By KERRI PINE

WHATEVER fate befalls them on the field, Tottenham Hotspur seem certain to avoid a costly and ignominious departure from the FA Carling Premiership as a result of alleged financial irregularities at the club.

Rick Parry, chief executive of the FA Premiership and a member of the three-man commission of enquiry investigating alleged breaches of rules by Tottenham, said yesterday that it was "almost inconceivable" that the commission's findings would result in the club being demoted at the end of the season.

With the benefits of Premiership status through income from television, league merit money and higher gate estimates to be worth as much as £6 million per season, Parry's comments will be greeted with considerable relief by Alan Sugar, the Tottenham chairman.

It was Sugar's claims in the High Court last summer, relating to a "bung" being paid to assist the transfer of Teddy Sheringham from Nottingham Forest to Tottenham, that prompted the enquiry to be set up. Subsequently, it was alleged in a television documentary that Tottenham had made unauthorised loans to players before Sugar and Terry Venables had taken control of the club in 1991.

Last month, before he appeared before the commission, Sugar said that Tottenham should escape the severest censure if "natural justice" prevailed. At that stage, the Football Association was still considering Venables' appointment as England coach. "If Terry Venables is to be appointed... they are going to have to put to one side matters relating to the breaking of rules," Sugar said. "And if they do that, they surely have to also put to one side matters relating to Tottenham."

It seems that he, and Tottenham, may have won the day. It is understood that the commission has so far been unable to find Tottenham guilty of any wrong-doings in relation to the Sheringham transfer that would merit relegating them. As the alleged loans were made before the Premier League was formed, the commission is unwilling to take retrospective action.

If found guilty of breaking regulations, one possibility is that Tottenham would instead be fined, an action that would outrage the staff and supporters of Swindon Town, who four years ago were prevented from taking their place in the top division effectively demoted — for breaches of rules regarding payments to players. That Tottenham could end up being relegated because of their own shortcomings on the pitch is hardly likely to appease the Wilshire club.

The events in question (relating to Tottenham) took place before the

formation of the Premier League. Parry said yesterday, "and the FA will act on our recommendations. It is too early to say whether individuals could be punished."

The investigations are taking longer than anticipated. We have already spoken to more than 20 people, and each interview leads to another avenue. There are several more to speak to yet."

It is believed that the commission, comprising Parry, Steve Coppell, the former Crystal Palace manager, and Robert Reid, Q.C. will be able to forward its findings to the FA by the end of the month. It will be up to the FA to decide what punishments, if any, to impose.

One likely upshot is that the regulations regarding payments to agents during transfer negotiations will be strengthened. "I would anticipate that, as a result of the enquiry, the rules will be tightened up," Parry said.

## Snow and ice play havoc with fixture programme

By PETER BALL

FROZEN pitches swiftly put paid to last night's football programme, with Portsmouth v Leicester, the first of a go after a pitch inspection yesterday morning had revealed Fratton Park was under six inches of snow. The match was quickly called off to prevent Leicester having to travel south in treacherous conditions.

The other scheduled matches, Luton v Millwall, in the first division, Cardiff v Bournemouth, in the second, and Carlisle v Shrewsbury, in the third, were also postponed. Notts County hope to play their Anglo-Italian Cup semi-final second leg against Southend United tonight after Meadow Lane was declared unfit yesterday.

Tranmere Rovers hope the thaw will enable the Coca-Cola Cup semi-final first leg against Aston Villa to go ahead tonight at Prenton Park. John King, the Tranmere manager, has to decide who to bring in to replace Tony Thomas, the full back, who begins a two-match suspension. Steven Mungall, who has recovered from a hamstring problem, could come in or Ged Brannan could drop back from midfield. This would mean a recall for Mark Proctor or John Morrissey.

Ron Atkinson, the Aston Villa manager, may decide to retain Stephen Froggatt, who returned to the team when Villa beat Swindon Town 5-0 on Saturday, even though Steve Staunton is fit to resume his place on the left-hand side of midfield. "I am a little bit tempted to put him in Daley's place although Daley has been finding some form himself recently," Atkinson said. "The thing is that some of our best form in the last two years has been when Froggatt has been in the side."

Blackburn Rovers yesterday gained a vote of confidence from their sponsor, Scottish and Newcastle Breweries has renewed its Meridian Lager shirt sponsorship in a deal worth £500,000 over two years.

Steve Hodge, the midfield player, has been put on the transfer list by Leeds United. Hodge, 31, was made available by Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, along with Frank Strandli, the Norway striker, and Ray Wallace, twin brother of the Leeds forward, Rod Wallace.

Andrew Longmore is up at Oxford to study an unfashionable club with bizarre tendencies

## Eccentrics to the Manor born

Faces hardened against a biting wind, shoulders hunched inside grey anoraks, the people who formed an orderly line outside the offices of the Manor Ground in Oxford earlier this week might have been queuing for bread on a Moscow street not waiting for a ticket to football's fantasyland.

The people of Oxford are not given to animation, even when their football team is one step away from a place in the quarter-finals of the FA Cup. Resignation is their chief characteristic, closely followed by blind finger-crossing faith that, this Saturday, the sight of Chelsea, another FA Carling Premiership side,



will bring out the aristocrat once again. You can never tell with Oxford.

Like the city, the team is hopelessly schizophrenic, part Town, part Gown, with streaks of the old amateurism still visible beneath the professional overcoat. Long before Headington United was transformed into Oxford United and became the town team, Oxford City and Pegasus had set traditions of style and swagger that, in their sweet and chaotic way, United have done their best to pursue. There has always been an element of surprise, enjoyment and downright barminess about their football.

The last two weeks have been a cameo of United's 100-year history and provided a fitting centenary monument to inconsistency and financial strife, the twin towers of the club's enduring existence. Either side of knocking Leeds United out of the FA Cup, they have been beaten 3-0 by Luton Town and, when everyone was confidently predicting new life in the league, 4-0 by Charlton Athletic at home last Saturday. There is no explanation for eccentricity of that sort and, with any luck, no cure for it either.

To cap it all, just as their long-suffering and dwindling band of supporters were preparing to forgive these aberrations once more, the management decided to sell Jim Magilton, the club's lead-



Oxford United supporters show off tickets for the FA Cup tie with Chelsea. Photograph: Stephen Markeson

ing striker, to Southampton for a bargain £600,000. "They shouldn't have sold him at all, let alone in the middle of a Cup run and for next to nothing by today's prices," Ben Warwick, a supporter for the past decade, said, voicing a grievance that echoes down the years. Since the days in the Twenties when the players had to buy their shirts for two shillings and sixpence and the left half did a meat round on his bike after the game, cash has come before sentiment.

The university, which has established its own tradition of amateur sport, has never really identified with the club and the decline of the local car industry has eroded the one solid working-class base of support. United took 36,000

supporters to Wembley for the Milk Cup final in 1986 but average gates have barely topped 6,000 this season.

Students swell the numbers during term time but are not reliable. Apart from the 3,000 loyalists, Oxford attracts refugees, people passing through who will follow their fortunes from afar but have no passion. They are a good second team to support.

"It's hard to get Oxford people involved: not just in the football, in anything," Gary Whitting, secretary of the supporters' association, said. "It's an unfashionable club, but we've had our moments."

The one period of financial stability was provided by Robert Maxwell and proved, subsequently, to be an embarrass-

ment. Maxwell saved the club from extinction in 1981 and sponsored its most successful era. But, in retrospect, even those years of glory, when Oxford reached the first division and won the Milk Cup, were tarnished by foul's gold. There is still a sneaking admiration for Maxwell in some quarters but it is tinged with the Oxford colours of yellow and blue not the black and white of reality.

Otherwise, the motto of the club has been scrimp and save, and sour and sell: Dean Saunders, Ray Houghton, John Aldridge, Billy Hamilton, Colin Clarke. A number of class acts have played in front of the Cuckoo Lane End before being price-tagged and sold to balance the books. The

club is now owned by Biomass Recycling Ltd but is still set to announce losses of £1.3 million pounds for last year.

For Oxford, the Cup is a money-spinner, a chance to make ends meet, to win the lottery and to prod the council into considering the club's claims for a new ground, which have hit a wall of apathy over the last 30 years.

This month, Oxford celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of their last great Cup run, when they beat mighty Blackburn Rovers in the fifth round, two years after entering the old fourth division. This time, they could win the Cup and finish bottom of the first division, which would be bizarre even by Oxford's high standards.

## SPORT IN BRIEF

### ENZA four days ahead of schedule

PETER Blake and Robin Knox-Johnston claimed two records yesterday when their 92ft catamaran ENZA New Zealand passed Cape Leeuwin, the south-western tip of Australia, after 29 days 16hr 45sec. The co-skippers and their six-man crew have cut nearly four days off the previous best time for the 12,000-mile voyage from Ushant to the circumnavigation's "halfway" point, set last year by Bruno Peyron. ENZA has also clipped almost two days off Peyron's Southern Ocean record from the Cape of Good Hope, having covered the 4,000 miles in nine days 22 hours — an average of 16.8 knots.

ENZA, attempting to sail the world non-stop faster than Peyron's 79 days, has already registered three other records on its voyage: from the Ushant lighthouse off the north-west France to the Equator; from Ushant to the Cape of Good Hope; and from the Equator to the Cape of Good Hope.

### BBC Radio signs deal

CRICKET: BBC Radio yesterday signed a deal with the Test and County Cricket Board to ensure listeners will hear ball-by-ball commentary on all Test matches and one-day internationals for the next three seasons. The contract, which begins at the start of the summer, will also include ball-by-ball coverage of the semi-finals and finals of the Benson and Hedges Cup and NatWest Trophy.

Test Match Special will switch to its new home on BBC Radio 4 Long Wave at the end of March for coverage of the last three Tests of the five-Test series against West Indies. Ball-by-ball commentary on the opening two West Indies Tests and the five one-day internationals — the first of which is being played in Barbados today — can be heard on Radio 5.

### Schwer defends title

BOXING: Billy Schwer, the British and Commonwealth lightweight champion, from Luton, defends his title against Sean Murphy, of St Albans, at the Stevenage Ice Bowl tonight. Murphy, a former featherweight, has a record of 22 wins and four defeats, three of those defeats coming in his last six contests. Schwer has been beaten only once in 22 bouts — by Paul Burke, of Manchester — and averaged that defeat last November. Having shown that he is unable to cope with featherweights, Murphy faces a difficult task against a naturally heavier man tonight.

### Gray gets Scotland call

RUGBY UNION: Chris Gray, capped 22 times by Scotland, was called up yesterday for the national squad session at St Andrews at the weekend. Gray, 33, the Nottingham forward who played against Fiji and Tonga on the Scotland tour last summer, comes in for Neil Edwards, of Northampton, who has been drafted into the Scotland A side in place of the injured Jerry Richardson for the match against France A in Rennes on Sunday. Ian Corcoran, the Gala hooker, will also be at St Andrews in place of Jim Hay, of Hawick, who will be the replacement hooker in the Scotland A squad.

### McManus marches on

SNOOKER: Alan McManus, the newly-crowned Benson and Hedges Masters champion, emerged victorious from his fifth match in as many days by beating Dennis O'Kane, of New Zealand, 5-3 in the last 32 of the International Open at Bournemouth yesterday. McManus now meets Tony Knowles, a 5-2 conqueror of Dennis Taylor, Tony Drago, of Malta, recorded his best result of the season when he beat Ken Doherty, the Scottish Masters champion, 5-4 thanks to a break of 123 in the deciding frame.

### Offiah goes unpunished

RUGBY LEAGUE: Martin Offiah and Shaun Edwards have escaped punishment for their withdrawal from the World Sevens, but Paul Newlove, who also refused to attend the event, still faces a charge of misconduct. Newlove did not appear yesterday at a meeting of the Rugby Football League board of directors, which decided to take no action against Offiah, who pulled out because of a wrangle over insurance, and Edwards, his Wigan team-mate, who was injured. Bob Lindner has replaced Peter Tunks as coach of Oldham.

### Irish win put in doubt

CRICKET: An ambiguity in the rules of the ICC Trophy threw the outcome of yesterday's match between Ireland and Papua New Guinea into doubt. After compiling 230 for eight from their 50 overs, with rain threatening, Ireland were under the impression that a result would be assured once Papua had received 30 overs. After another 11 overs were bowled and Papua advanced to 88 for seven, play was called off and Ireland awarded the victory only after a series of calls to the tournament organisers. The Papuans may yet appeal.

### Hounslow's cup repeat

HOCKEY: Hounslow and Teddington will meet in the semi-finals of the Hockey Association Cup on March 13 at Birmingham University. The clubs met in the two previous finals, Hounslow carrying off the trophy each time by winning 4-1 and 3-2. In the other semi-final, at the same venue, Old Loughtonians have been drawn against Reading. No date has been fixed for the final.

SEMI-FINAL DRAW: Teddington v Hounslow (12.0); Old Loughtonians v Reading (2.15). Final to be played on March 13.

## FOR THE RECORD

### CRICKET

RAJKOT (Test one-day international) India beat Sri Lanka by 6 runs

INDIA: M Prabhakar run out 67

Sri Lanka: M Muralitharan 14

Wicket: M Prabhakar b Muralitharan 14

Wicket: M Prabhakar b Muralitharan 14

Wicket: M Prabhakar b Muralitharan 14

Wicket: M Prabhakar b Muralitharan 14

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Wicket: M Prabhakar b Muralitharan 14

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BEZIER: Huddersfield 2 Luton 2

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### FOOTBALL

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Southampton 2 Liverpool 2

BE















## FOOTBALL 40

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR  
LIKELY TO  
ESCAPE DEMOTION

## SPORT

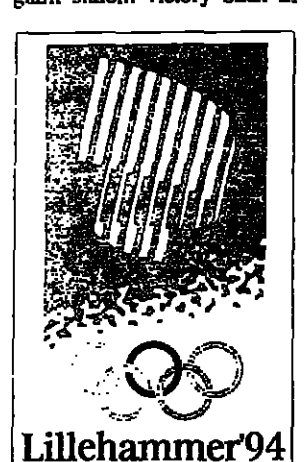
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 16 1994

American pays tribute to Maier after super giant slalom

# Roffe ends career on golden summit

FROM DAVID MILLER IN KVITFJELL, NORWAY

EVERYONE was remembering Ulrike Maier. Not least Diann Roffe, who, in her Austrian friend and rival's tragic absence from what was to have been her strongest event here, won the women's super giant slalom yesterday.



Lillehammer'94

1985. "I could race like no one else could race... if she was looking down today, she'd have said to anyone 'give it your best shot'."

Kvitfjell, a fir and icicle encrusted cathedral in the sky, is said by Norwegians to be one step from heaven. By the strangest of ironies, while we waited for the post-medal press conference, a Norwegian guitarist and his teenage daughter came to sing for us; itself an unusual enough occurrence in the expedient press environment, yet symptomatic of the Norwegians' approach to these Games.

Quite unaware of the poignancy, the couple's first song was Bob Dylan's "Knocking

on Heaven's Door". A few hard men had to turn away. This was the first time the Austrian women's team had raced since Maier's death during the downhill at Garmisch two weeks ago. When they came to practise on Monday, following the men's combined downhill race, they protested that the run was too icy. This was a consequence of the preparation for the men's downhill proper on Sunday, for which an icy course had been specifically prepared, on the instruction of Peter Bartsch, the Austrian coach of the Norwegian men's Alpine team — for the benefit of Kjetil Aamodt who, in the event, finished second.

Following the complaint, machines were used to break up the ice and lay a new course overnight. Walter Trilling, an International Ski Federation judge and technical delegate, said yesterday: "Breaking up the ice for the girls was important, but so, particularly, was the liberal use of pine needles on such a day of sunshine and shadow." Without the needles strewn on the course to assist eye judgment, the undulations in pure white sheets of icy snow, especially when changing from sunshine to shadow, are unreadable at 80 miles an hour.

Roffe was drawn to be first out of the starting gate, which, she said, suited her. She would have chosen an early number. The technical difficulty of this course was, as a giant slalom specialist, to her advantage.

Although she knew she had skied well at the end of the run, it would not be until Svetlana Gladischeva, of Russia, eighth in the 1992 Olympic downhill and yesterday starting 35th, had failed by only 0.29sec to match Roffe's time of 1min 22.15sec, that Roffe knew she had won. A long, anxious wait. Gladischeva's second place was Russia's best



Roffe, of the United States, on the way to victory in the super giant slalom at Kvitfjell yesterday

ever women's alpine position and the first medal since Jevgenija Sidorova's slalom bronze in 1956.

For two years, Max Wahlqvist, the Swedish trainer of the American women's team, had been persistently telling Roffe: "Don't think. Go!" For what turned out to be the most important race of her career, she did just that.

"An Olympics is one day, one hill, one race," Roffe said. "In 1985 [winning at the world championships] I knew nothing. Now, I know that you have to risk everything. It was difficult for Max, coming from a young Norwegian team to an older American team who were conscious of the risks of mistakes, of injuries."

She has an unusual face. When she smiles, it unfolds into a cheerful Eliza Doolittle, but when serious, the eyes and mouth narrow to an expression of unwavering determination. As the 1988 men's Olympic downhill champion, Pirmin Zurbriggen, has said,

"You need an inner streak of violence for this game. Roffe can now happily retire. Living on the Raquette River in New York State has taught her more relaxing pastimes, such as fishing and organising horsemanship schooling for children."

A few others experienced the violence of the mountain that is always there, lying in wait. Katja Seizinger, of Germany, the World Cup super giant slalom leader this season and the world champion last sea-

son, lost the edge of her left ski less than 30 seconds out of the gate and careered off the course. "I couldn't be more unhappy," she said, "but it was my own fault."

The defending champion, Deborah Compagnoni, of whom so much was expected, was seventeenth, while Anita Wachter, of Austria, World Cup overall champion last season, was ninth.

Austrian banned, page 42  
Ice wars, pages 1 and 3

# Igglesden hit by injury jinx as worries pile up for England

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS

THE eleventh-hour injury jinx that has retarded Alan Igglesden's international career with England struck cruelly on time yesterday.

Igglesden's left elbow was struck with sickening severity as he batted in the nets against a local fast bowler on the eve of the first one-day international against West Indies.

Led away by the team's overworked physiotherapist, Dave Roberts, Igglesden had an immediate x-ray at a Bridgetown hospital, which dispelled justifiable fears of a fracture. According to Roberts, however, the arm is "badly bruised, swollen and sore."

The injury was to be treated with ice overnight but although no decision will be taken until this morning, Igglesden's participation today must be in serious doubt.

Igglesden, who withdrew only hours before two Test matches last summer, was due to make his one-day debut today but the likelihood is that England will now be forced to include Devon Malcolm, a bowler they had been hoping to conserve for the first Test on Saturday.

This latest blow to the already disrupted strategy of the touring team befell them only half-an-hour after Michael Atherton, the captain, had named his team. The selectors had been obliged to rule out Angus Fraser and Andrew Caddick through injury and, although both hope to be fit for the start of the Test series, England temporarily have only three fit seam bowlers in their party.

On a tour that traditionally threatens the bones of specialist batsmen, the richest irony is that the two injuries England have sustained this week have both been to fast bowlers while batting. Fraser, who was hit on the left hand during the weekend match against Barbados, had a second x-ray yesterday, purely as a precaution, but remains on course to bowl in the nets in Kingston on Friday.

Igglesden was hit by a wiry Barbadian youngster named Hattian Graham, who plays his cricket for the Banks club. Taking his eye off a short ball which failed to rise as he

expected, he was hit just below the elbow with a crack that could be heard two pitch lengths away.

The argument that, as a bowler, he should not have been batting in the nets holds no water — the West Indies tailenders have always undergone competitive net sessions against their own fast-bowling colleagues. But beyond question, Igglesden should have been wearing an arm protector, and was not.

His demise will attract great sympathy but little surprise. His career has several times looked on the point of taking off but it must be accepted that he was fortunate to win selec-



The Times 1st XI telephone game, which offers readers the chance to win a trip to Australia, closes at noon today. See page 39

tion for this tour after his fitness failings of last summer. If he fails now, then wherever the blame lies, he may never have another chance.

Chosen for the first Test of the Ashes series in June, he pulled out after straining his groin during an indoor practice session. Recalled for the third match, at Trent Bridge, he once again scratched on the Wednesday, this time with a back injury.

The England management must have feared the worst when Igglesden, 29, even broke down in Portugal, during the squad training week in December, but after making an unimpressive start here, he bowled his best spell of an admittedly brief tour on Sunday, when cheaply dismissing both the Barbados openers.

England hone skills, page 39

# Having an eye for the birds of golfing paradise

Nice game, dear?



A score of four under par on one hole is beyond most golfers' wildest dreams but until now it has also been beyond their vocabulary. On Wednesday, January 19, we reported the case of Jonathan Jenkins, 12, and his father who achieved a net two, four under par.

The Jenkinses were playing in a Stableford competition at Royal St George's, in Sandwich, the site of last year's Open Championship, and on the 18th, rated a five, received an extra stroke because of Jonathan's tender years. Such a net two on effectively a par six is a remarkable achievement. But what should it be called?

The first letters reached us within two days: clear, brief and to the point, though not always perfectly spelled. The suggestions were almost all

ornithologically based, in keeping with the birdie, eagle and albatross names given to one under, two under and three under par scores that exist at present.

There were nominations for Dodo, Comet, Phoenix (and Phoenix) Jay (and Jay Jay after the initials of Jonathan Jenkins), Roc, Auk and Great Auk, Griffin (not forgetting its relatives, griffon and gryphon), Pterodactyl, Tessa, Bottle, Lyre, Magpie, Wyvern, Dragon, Ostrich, Jonker and Condor. Bird watchers will have noticed that Tessa (a four-sided gambling device), Bottle (the nickname of the master in charge of golf at Jonathan Jenkins's school) and

John Hopkins has the last word on an addition to the language of sport

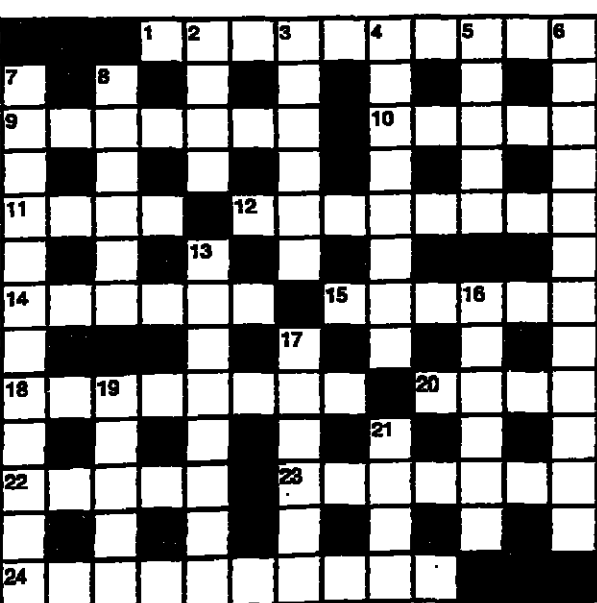
secretary of the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews.

Bonallack ruminated over the list of birds rather as he might prowl around a tricky putt on the Old Course, which starts and finishes outside his office window. "It must be a bird," he advised "because all the existing names are of birds and the more difficult the achievement the bigger the bird. Could a Dodo fly?" he asked and before the answer could be looked

up he said: "It's extinct anyway. It has to be a living bird."

"I like the condor," Bonallack remarked finally. "Isn't that a big bird?" It is indeed, though according to the Royal Zoological Society, the koribustard is the largest bird of prey and the ostrich is the largest bird. Imagine saying with pride "I scored a koribustard on the 10th at Sunningdale today." And as the ostrich cannot get its head out of the sand, never mind fly, and is as daft as a brush, it would be unsuitable.

The answer, the winner on points, is the condor. The best entry is Mr Pip Kirby, who wrote from the Isle of Man and nominated a condor, which he said was the world's largest bird. May you have many of them, Mr Kirby. Champagne is on its way.



# TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 90

- ACROSS
- 1 Bardic festival (10)
  - 9 Paid attention to (7)
  - 10 Fastening: warder (5)
  - 11 Warty creature (4)
  - 12 Dregs (8)
  - 14 Purveyor of headgear (6)
  - 15 Quick look (6)
  - 18 Furry-tailed little rodent (8)
  - 20 Site of Taj Mahal (4)
  - 22 Walk unhurriedly (5)
  - 23 In disarray (7)
  - 24 Suppositions (10)
- DOWN
- 2 Skin irritation (4)
  - 3 More neat (6)
  - 4 Follower of master (8)
  - 5 Body of disciplined men (5)
  - 6 Cheers! (4,3,5)
  - 7 Present at the conclusion (2,2,3,5)
  - 8 Royal house to which Jacobites loyal (6)
  - 13 Fragrant: evocative (8)
  - 16 Deny: invalidate (6)
  - 17 Human soul: Greek nymph (6)
  - 19 Polish (3,2)
  - 21 Hurdle, race; animal (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 89

ACROSS: 1 Prompt 4 Dalek 8 China 9 Bravado 10 Coo  
11 Abode 12 Ransack 14 Despot 16 Tattoo 20 Hostage  
23 D-mark 24 Too 25 Obviate 26 Macho 27 Egypt  
28 Anorak

DOWN: 1 Pick and choose 2 Ominous 3 Placebo 4 Drawn  
5 Liana 6 Knock for knock 7 Abort 13 Sat 15 Pat  
17 Abdomen 18 Tramcar 19 Peter 21 Savoy 22 Await

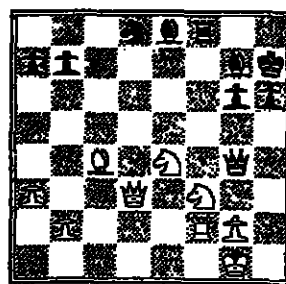
# WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Today's problem is from the game Lalic - Summerscale. Hastings Challengers 1994. White can capture the black knight on d8 with his queen, but then his own knight on e4 is loose. Instead, he found something much stronger. Can you see it?

Solution, page 28

Raymond Keene, page 7



# WORDS WATCHING

By Philip Howard

LCI  
a. Lowest common indicator  
b. London Classical Institute  
c. An almost amphibious craft

TOUSSAINT L'OUVERTURE  
a. The start of All Saints' Day  
b. A successful rebel  
c. An ecclesiastical prelude

VAVASOUR  
a. A cooking apple  
b. A tenant farmer  
c. A velvet under-bodice

LEPID  
a. A butterfly  
b. Clever  
c. Charming

Answers on page 28

# UFO

(unexpectedly fast operation)



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